



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Designated Registered Nurse Prescriber Prescribing Agreement

Designated Registered Nurse (RN) Prescriber Prescribing Agreement

This Designated Registered Nurse Prescriber Prescribing Agreement (agreement) fulfils the requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) [Registration Standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines - designated registered nurse prescriber](#). It is a key component of the designated RN prescriber role as outlined in the NMBA standard and the Western Australia Designated Registered Nurse Prescriber Prescribing Guidelines. The agreement must be signed by all parties, including the representative of the authorising organisation.

Key points

Prescribing agreement

A designated RN prescribing agreement is a written agreement between the designated RN prescriber and authorised health practitioner/s approved by the employer. The agreement clearly documents the role of both parties. A copy of the prescribing agreement is to be retained by the designated RN prescriber, the authorised health practitioner/s and the employer.

Scope of practice

The scope of practice of an individual RN is that to which they are educated, competent and authorised to perform within regulatory and organisational frameworks. An individual's scope of practice is also determined by the employer's requirements, the health needs of people and practice context.

The prescribing agreement is informed by and supports the designated RN prescriber's scope of practice. It provides clarity for the designated RN prescriber, the authorised health practitioner, the organisation and other members of the multidisciplinary team.

Accountability

The designated RN prescriber is responsible and accountable for prescribing within their defined scope of practice and authorisation.

Roles and responsibilities

Responsibilities of the designated RN prescriber

The designated RN prescriber must:

- comply with all relevant NMBA standards, codes and guidelines, as well as relevant statewide and local policies
- clearly define and work within their scope of clinical practice when prescribing scheduled medicines
- work with the authorised health practitioner/s to establish the prescribing agreement
- prescribe in accordance with their approved prescribing agreement and its specifications
- maintain proficiency in current practices related to the health conditions and medicines in their prescribing agreement
- consider their level of knowledge, skills, competence and scope of practice when making clinical decisions, escalating care when necessary
- consult with and refer to authorised health practitioner/s or other relevant health practitioners if care or prescribing falls outside their competence or scope
- maintain collaborative relationships with prescribing partners, including agreed communication and escalation processes
- participate in clinical mentorship for 6 months after the commencement of prescribing practice
- Participate in monitoring and audit related to prescribing practice
- Engage in the annual review of the prescribing agreement
- Retain and store the prescribing agreement as per their employer's requirements.

Responsibilities of authorised health practitioner prescribing partner

The prescribing partner must:

- understand the scope of practice and competence of the designated RN prescriber
- maintain awareness of the approved conditions outlined in the designated RN prescriber's approved prescribing agreement
- collaborate to establish and maintain the prescribing agreement, including agreed communication and clinical escalation processes
- maintain a professional and collaborative prescribing relationship, accepting referrals and / or providing advice when care is outside the RN's scope of practice
- participate in the annual review of the prescribing agreement
- notify the designated RN prescriber and employer in writing if ceasing the prescribing agreement.

For further information

- [NMBA Guidelines for registered nurses applying for and with the endorsement for scheduled medicines – designated registered nurse prescriber](#)

- [NMBA Fact Sheet: Registration Standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines – designated registered nurse prescriber](#)
- Western Australia Designated Registered Nurse Prescriber Prescribing Guidelines

Prescribing agreement

Demographic information	
Designated RN prescriber (Name and title)	
NMBA endorsement details (Registration number, initial date of endorsement)	
Employee number	
Authorised health practitioner/s (Name, title, role, registration number – noting there may be more than one authorised health practitioner prescribing partner)	
Prescribing agreement review date	
Name and address of organisation (Location and facility)	
Clinical service/s For example, palliative care	

Clinical Service Director (or equivalent) (Name and title)	
Line manager (optional) (Name and title)	
Clinical mentorship details	Clinical mentorship agreement in place: Yes/No Start date: End date:
Scope of practice	
Postgraduate education and training relevant to designated prescribing role For example,graduate certificate in palliative care	
Scope of practice When, where, how, and with whom will the designated RN prescriber provide care and prescribe scheduled medicines?	Outline the role of the designated RN prescriber within the clinical service/s and as part of the multidisciplinary team, including the model/s of care in which they will be authorised to prescribe scheduled medicines. (Insert relevant link to clinical service information if applicable)

Specific prescribing conditions									
Prescribing scope	General prescribing guidance Prescribes medicines in accordance with the Quality Use of Medicines, the National Prescribing Framework, the WA Medicines and Poisons Act 2014, the WA Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016 and the WA Monitored Medicines Prescribing Code. Use current best practice guidelines, medication reference texts and local procedures or protocols to support safe prescribing, including but not limited to Therapeutic Guidelines, Australian Medicines Handbook, Australian Injectable Drug Handbook. This includes adherence to opioid and/or antimicrobial stewardship principles and local approval processes.								
	Authorised medical conditions and indications The designated RN may prescribe or deprescribe new and continuing medications to manage the following condition/s as listed below <table><tr><th>Medical conditions and indications</th></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr></table> Authorised medicines The designated RN prescriber may commence, continue and/or cease medications within their scope of practice using their clinical judgement and in consultation with their authorised health practitioner prescribing partner/s as listed below. Medicines specified cannot exceed the authorised health practitioner’s scope of practice. (Document Schedule 8 medicines in separate section below)	Medical conditions and indications							
Medical conditions and indications									

	List of medications – therapeutic classification				
	Medicine – Therapeutic Class	New (yes/no)	Continuing therapy (yes/no)	Cease (yes/no)	Exclusions
Schedule 8 medicines					
The designated RN prescriber is authorised to prescribe Schedule 8 (S8) medicines in accordance with the <i>WA Medicines and Poisons Act 2014</i> and WA Medicines and Poisons Regulations 2016.					
The designated RN prescriber is authorised to prescribe the listed S8for the following conditions/indications within the specified limitations.					
The medicines specified must be within the scope of practice of the authorised health practitioner/s.					
S8 medicine		Conditions/indications	Exclusions/limitations		
Prescribing enablers					
Real time prescription monitoring	The designated RN prescriber is responsible for checking WA Script Check prior to prescribing monitored medicines.				

Escalation processes	
Clinical escalation	In the event of clinical deterioration, designated RN prescribers must follow their local escalation processes and ensure all local emergency and clinical policies, procedures and protocols are followed.
Clinical dispute resolution	Non-urgent clinical Where dispute arises regarding the clinical management of a consumer, and which is not time-critical, escalation should occur to the authorised health practitioner prescribing partner or responsible treating medical or nurse practitioner. Urgent clinical Where dispute arises regarding the management of a consumer which impacts safety, escalation must occur via the organisation's emergency response system. Consider reporting any disputes via the clinical incident reporting system as per locally agreed processes.
Professional dispute resolution	Where dispute arises regarding the designated RN prescriber's scope of practice, prescribing authority or professional responsibility, escalation must occur to the designated RN prescriber's direct manager, employer or agreement holder.
Monitoring	
Safety and quality governance processes	Uses existing safety and quality governance processes to review prescribing practices in alignment with local policy and procedures.

Prescribing Agreement

All parties:	Registered Nurse	Authorised Health Practitioner
Have discussed the purpose of the above prescribing agreement in accordance with the designated registered nurse prescriber's scope of practice and requirements of the NMBA registration standard: Endorsement for scheduled medicines – designated registered nurse prescriber .		
Have discussed and agreed on the designated registered nurse prescriber's scope of practice and their role as a prescriber within this defined scope.		
Have discussed and agreed on a partnership framework including expectations and boundaries of the prescribing agreement.		
Have discussed and agreed to the process for consultation and escalation of care inclusive of referral to other relevant health practitioner's when care requirements are outside the scope of practice of the designated registered nurse prescriber.		

Designated Registered Nurse Prescriber	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
Authorised Health Practitioner	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
Authorised Health Practitioner (Secondary – Optional)	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		

Approvals

Line Manager (Nursing)	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		
Service/Site Director (or equivalent organisational representative)	Signature	Date
Name:		
Position:		

Publication details

Document information

Title	
Business Unit, Division, Agency	
Email	

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Approvals record

Approvers (name and role)	Business Unit/Agency	Date

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