



Media Release

24 November 2016

Call for new roles to improve patient care

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (SA Branch) is calling on the government to urgently implement vital new advanced nursing and midwifery roles to improve patient outcomes.

The ANMF (SA Branch) says the establishment of Advanced Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Practice roles is critical to improving and strengthening South Australia's health system under Transforming Health.

"These roles have been globally linked to improved patient care, a reduction in hospital admissions and a shorter length of stay for patients," says ANMF SA CEO/Branch Secretary Elizabeth Dabars.

"In turn, these benefits result in economic savings for our health system—a fact that surely can't be ignored by the government," Ms Dabars says.

She says enabling nurses to work with an approved full scope of practice will build their capacity and capabilities to enhance the patient experience.

"We need a sustainable program for the creation and funding of these roles which will play an important part in underpinning the Transforming Health strategy of providing consistent, quality care into the future.

The basis of advanced practice is the high degree of knowledge, skill and experience applied in the nurse-patient relationship in order to achieve optimal outcomes throughout critical analysis, problem solving and accurate decision-making.

The ANMF (SA Branch) has written to Health Minister, the Hon. Jack Snelling MP seeking his support for the establishment of Advanced Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Practice roles.

"The Government provides support for scholarships related to the creation of Nurse Practitioner roles – we believe that must be extended, as a matter of urgency, to Advanced Practice roles," Ms Dabars says.

"This is about ensuring South Australians have access to the best possible care, while improving and strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of our health system.

Ms Dabars will address media on this issue at a press conference tomorrow.

What: Press conference with ANMF SA CEO/Branch Secretary Elizabeth Dabars

When: Thursday 24 November at 12.30pm

Where: ANMF (SA Branch) Office 191 Torrens Road, Ridleyton.

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