



CNSSNZ: Suggested Educational Pathways for the CNS

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The CNS's advanced practice reflects knowledge and skills gained through both education and experience.

Qualifications should be clinically focused. Several Universities offer advanced nursing practice papers that make up a PG Certificate, PG Diploma or Masters qualification.

The Clinical Nurse Specialist may choose to complete a Clinical Masters with prescribing similar to that of the Nurse Practitioner.

Suggested type of papers are listed below, the title of the paper and the outline of your study will depend on the University you choose. Other papers of your choice will need to be added to obtain sufficient credits for the qualification.

Education pathway will vary according to role expression and clinical context

| | Unit-based CNS | CNS: Nurse-led clinics/initiatives | CNS working across healthcare settings |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| Masters | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p><u>May include specialist, interdisciplinary and/or prescribing practicum as appropriate to the role with a Dissertation or Thesis.</u></p> </div> | | |
| PG Diploma | Nursing Research/ Evidence-based practice Clinical Leadership Clinical Teaching Assessment and Clinical Decision making | Nursing Research/ Evidence-based practice Pharmacology Assessment and Clinical Decision making | Nursing Research/ Evidence-based practice Clinical Teaching Assessment and Clinical Decision making Family Practice |
| PG Certificate | Advanced Health Assessment <u>Physiology and pathophysiology</u> Advanced practice/ knowledge in specialty | Advanced Health Assessment <u>Physiology and pathophysiology</u> Advanced practice/ knowledge in specialty | Advanced Health Assessment <u>Physiology and pathophysiology</u> Advanced practice/ knowledge in specialty |