



Leamington
MEDICAL CENTRE

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Nurses are a huge part of our team at Leamington medical centre. Nurses work as part of a collaborative team. There are a few different roles for nurses in the primary care setting.

Registered Nurse: This is the traditional role of a nurse in General practice. They triage urgent patient phone calls, do diabetic annual exams, cervical screenings, immunisations, wound management, before school checks and many other supportive roles.

Community Nurse prescriber: This is an elevated role in which an RN has undergone approved work-based training. They may prescribe where the diagnosis has already been made (eg, rheumatic fever secondary prevention), where the diagnosis is relatively uncomplicated (eg, determined through laboratory testing) or for minor ailments or illnesses. Any diagnostic uncertainty must be discussed with or referred to an authorised prescriber i.e GP. They cannot prescribe any controlled medications (zopiclone, narcotics etc) They may order tests such as a throat swab or urine test if it falls under their prescribing scope.

They prescribe antibiotics for uncomplicated conditions such as strep throat, ear infections, uncomplicated cellulitis, uncomplicated UTIs. They can treat eczema, refill asthma inhalers, treat constipation, uncomplicated thrush.

May only prescribe from the published medicines list for registered nurse prescribers in community health from NCNZ. They may only prescribe after doing a face-to-face consult.

Registered Nurse prescriber: This is post-graduate diploma for an RN who has been already practicing in General practice for many years.

The specific common and long- term conditions nurses can prescribe for include diabetes and related conditions, hypertension, respiratory diseases including asthma and COPD, anxiety, depression, heart failure, gout, palliative care, contraception, vaccines, common skin conditions and infections. Any diagnostic uncertainty must be discussed.

with or referred to an authorised prescriber i.e GP. They are only allowed to prescribe after a face-to-face consult. They are allowed to order tests that fall within their scope of prescribing rights. Controlled drugs are allowed but have limits on duration usually only 7 days. Refills of regular medications is allowed if they have been initiated by an authorised prescriber, i.e GP and it falls under the approved list of medications.

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