Being an accountable, autonomous professional and partner in care

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All registered nurses with a community nursing specialist practice qualification are required to work autonomously in people's homes, close to home or in the community, with people of all ages. They work in interdisciplinary and interagency environments, and they work with, and delegate to, diverse interdisciplinary and interagency teams involved in providing care. These teams include registered professionals, other colleagues who are not on a professional register, carers, family members, volunteers and others working in third sector organisations.

They often work in unpredictable, unconventional and complex settings, with consequently higher risks. They work independently, and require specialist knowledge and skill, in order to work effectively as an autonomous, accountable professional.

Many community nurses specialise in caring for a particular client group or are specialists in a particular field of practice. They apply their specialist community knowledge and skill in the context of their intended field of practice and the setting they practise in. As registered nurses, they abide by the Code, and meet all of the Standards of proficiency for registered nurses
relevant to their field of specialist community nursing practice.

Outcomes

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Registered nurses with this qualification in their intended field of practice, will be able to:

1.1practise autonomously, proactively and innovatively, demonstrating self-awareness, emotional intelligence and openness

1.2lead and manage a service, with the ability to effectively admit, discharge and refer people to other professionals, services and agencies as appropriate

1.3deliver specialist person-centred care in complex, challenging and unpredictable circumstances

1.4account for their decisions, actions and omissions when working with complexity, risk, unpredictability and when all of the information required might not be available

1.5critically understand and apply relevant legal, regulatory and governance requirements, policies, and professional and ethical frameworks, differentiating where appropriate between the devolved legislatures of the United Kingdom

1.6lead and promote care provision that is person-centred, anti-discriminatory, culturally competent and inclusive

1.7demonstrate critical awareness of stigma and the potential for bias, taking action to resolve any inequity arising from either, and educate others where necessary

1.8recognise the need for, and lead on action to provide, reasonable adjustments for people, groups and communities, influencing health policy and promoting best practice

1.9demonstrate the principles of courage, transparency and the professional duty of candour, taking responsibility to address poor practice wherever it is encountered

1.10critically reflect and recognise when their personal values and beliefs might impact on their behaviour and practice

1.11assess the opportunities, risks and demands of specialist community nursing practice, and take action to maintain their own mental and physical health and wellbeing

.12apply the numeracy, literacy, digital and technological skills required to deliver safe and effective specialist practice hat meets the needs of people, their families and carers

.13be an effective ambassador and role model, and a positive influence on the profession.