

Cancer Nurses
Society of Australia



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Redeveloping the Australian Cancer Nursing Framework: AusCaN

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Flinders University
Australia

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation, and pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

I recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.



ID 113623076 | Aboriginal Landscape © Rashmi Singh | Dreamstime.com



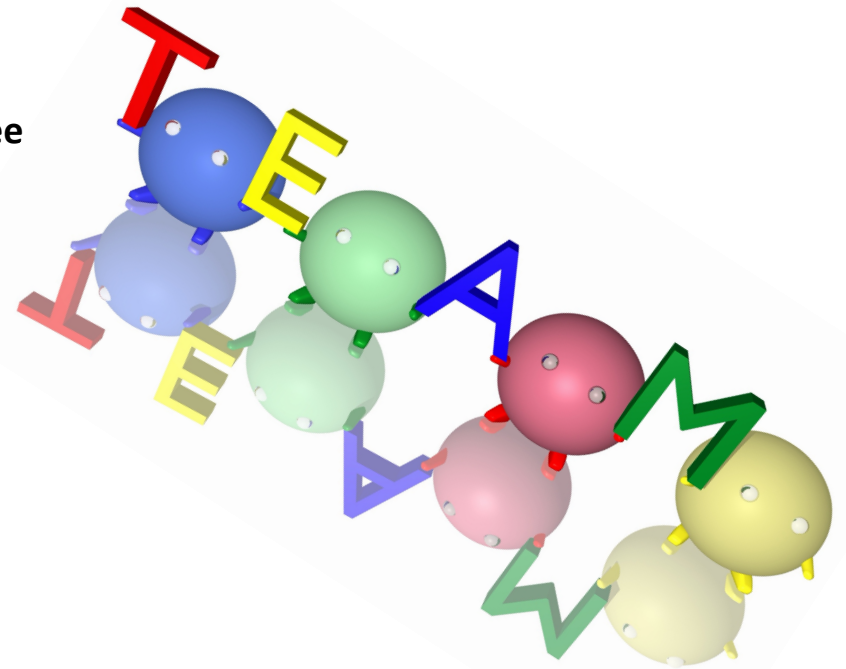
Acknowledgements

Research/Governance team

Professor Catherine Paterson
A/Prof Gemma McErlean
Jemma Still
Dr Clare Lynex
Dr Pammie Ellem

Framework Advisory Committee

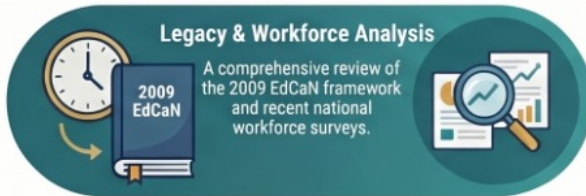
Bridget Smith
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Kelly Trudgen
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Candice Ingwersen
Margie Hjorth
Professor Mei Krishnasamy
D/Professor Patsy Yates
Sally Kriel
Professor Sanchia Aranda
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All participants of the consultation and consensus projects

Phase 1: Building the Foundation

EVIDENCE-DRIVEN INPUTS

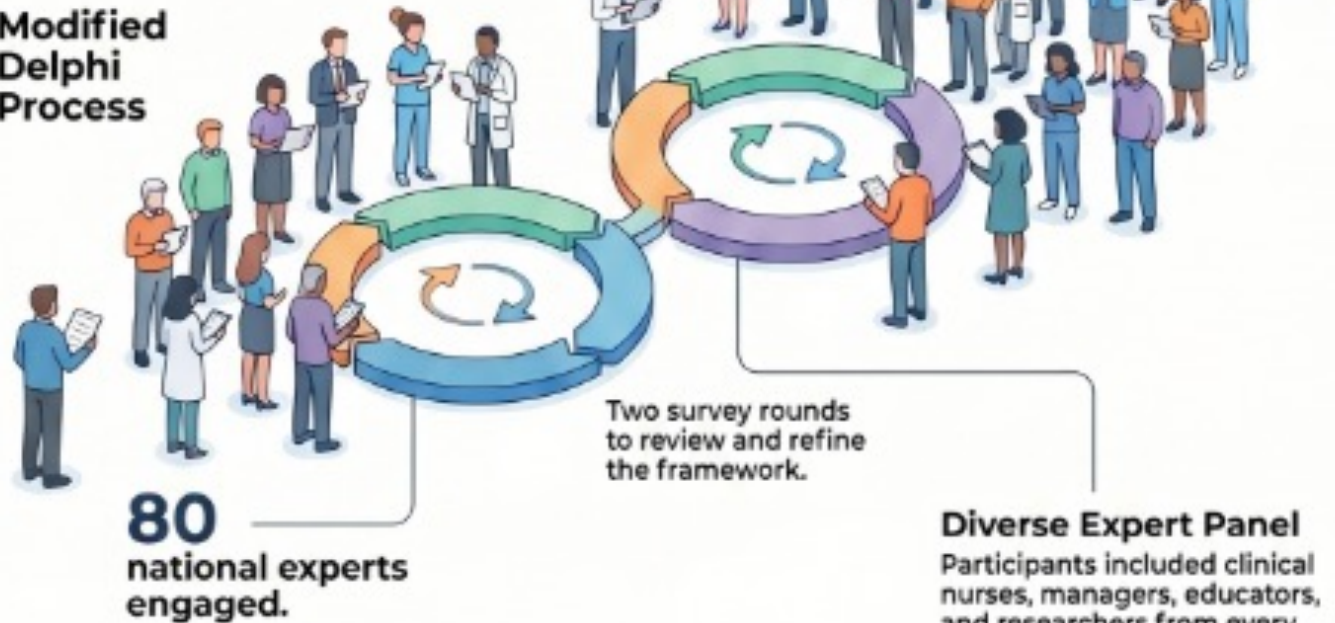


*Notebook LM

Phase 2: National Consensus



**Modified
Delphi
Process**



*Notebook LM

Phase 2: National Consensus

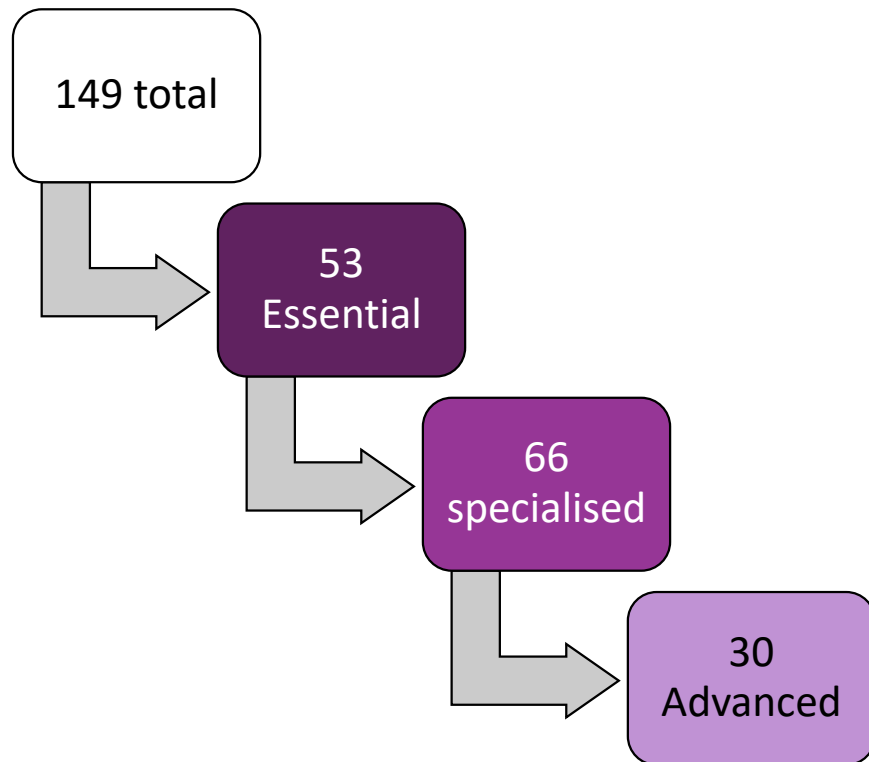


**TARGETED EXPERT
REFINEMENTS**

Agreement reached 139/144

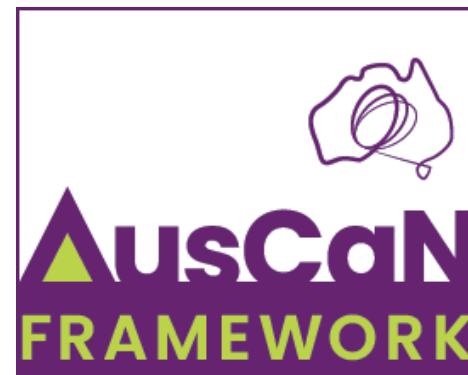
*Notebook LM

Consensus Capabilities



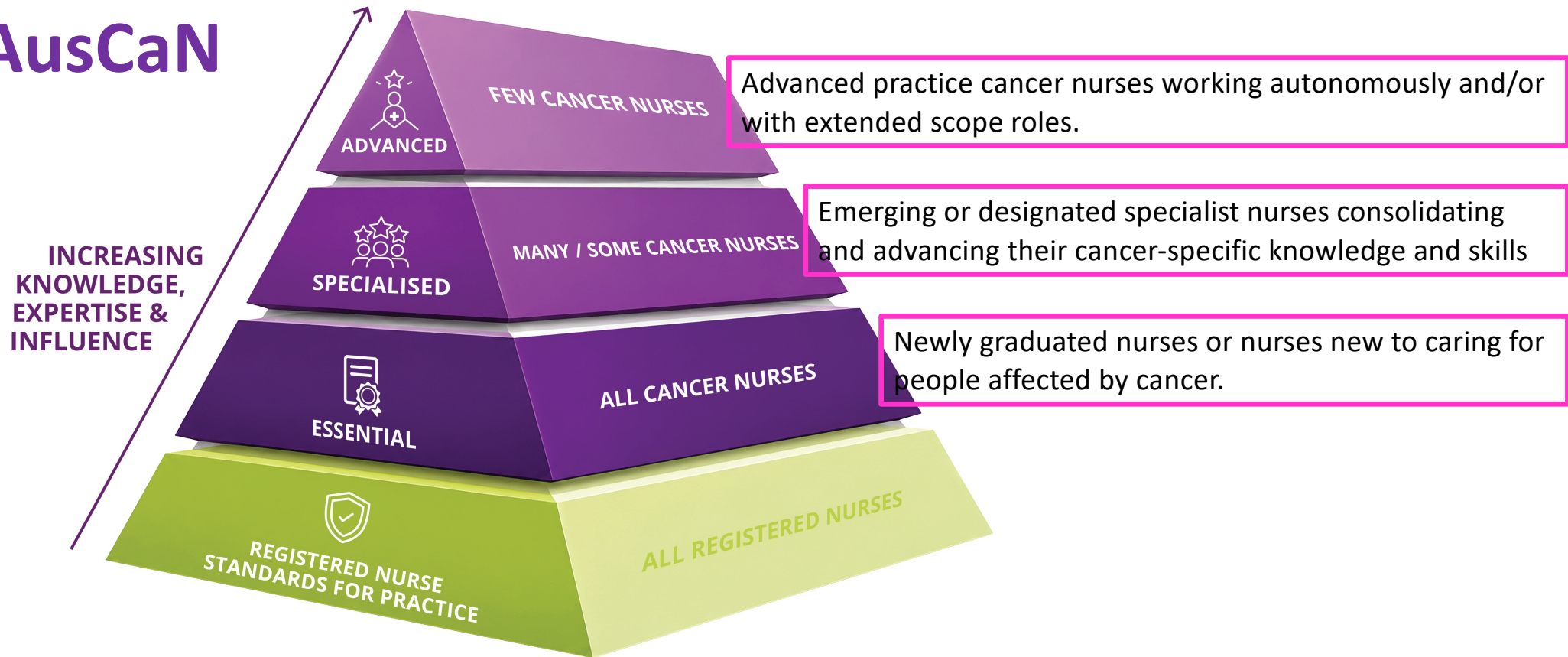
Domain and Capabilities The nurse is able to:		Essential	Specialised	Advanced
Domain 1: Clinical - Knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to deliver high-quality, person-centred cancer care				
1.1	Cancer Foundations			
1.1.1	Demonstrate a basic understanding of cancer biology, diagnostic processes, and treatment responses	✓		
1.1.2	Apply a basic understanding of cancer biology, diagnostic processes, and treatment responses to inform cancer care	✓		
1.1.3	Demonstrate a basic understanding of how comorbidities can impact the experience and outcomes for people affected by cancer	✓		
1.1.4	Demonstrate site-specific knowledge of and adherence to cancer-related policies, procedures, and best practice guidelines	✓		
1.1.5	Apply legal and ethical decision-making principles in planning and delivering care for the person affected by cancer	✓		
1.1.6	Practice culturally congruent care that is safe, accessible, and responsive to the needs and preferences of people affected by cancer	✓		
1.1.7	Work in partnership with people affected by cancer and their care network (e.g. family, friends, informal caregivers, and formal carers) to deliver optimal care	✓		
1.1.8	Work autonomously within dynamic systems and teams to deliver safe, person-centred care for people affected by cancer	✓		
1.1.9	Use existing information technology and digital platforms to support the care of people affected by cancer	✓		
1.1.10	Develop therapeutic and supportive relationships with people affected by cancer	✓		
1.1.11	Demonstrate effective communication skills, acknowledging the diverse cultural, social and emotional responses of people affected by cancer	✓		
1.1.12	Demonstrate awareness of recognised care pathways (e.g., Optimal Care Pathways) to guide best practice care across the cancer continuum	✓		
1.1.13	Integrate recognised care pathways (e.g. Optimal Care Pathways) into the design and implementation of models of care to enhance outcomes for people affected by cancer		✓	
1.1.14	Understand national and global trends in cancer control and their impacts on people affected by cancer		✓	
1.1.15	Identify and integrate relevant technologies and digital platforms to support the care of people affected by cancer		✓	
1.1.16	Apply an advanced understanding of cancer biology, diagnostic processes, and treatment responses to inform cancer care		✓	
1.1.17	Integrate existing and evolving evidence into practice to guide care for people affected by cancer		✓	
1.1.18	Demonstrate the ability to apply cancer-specific knowledge and skills in complex and unfamiliar environments		✓	
1.1.19	Manage a caseload to ensure safe and effective care for people affected by cancer, while considering team workload and service demands		✓	
1.2	Health Promotion and Risk Reduction			
1.2.1	Actively engage in health promotion activities that support cancer prevention (primary and secondary) and risk reduction across populations	✓		
1.2.2	Implement health promotion and risk reduction strategies/activities in practice setting		✓	
1.2.3	Develop and lead activities in health promotion that promote cancer prevention (primary and secondary) and support risk reduction across populations			✓

AusCaN: The Australian Cancer Nurses Capability Framework



The AusCaN Framework has been designed for Registered Nurses at all levels who work with people affected by cancer, whether in dedicated cancer care settings or in general health care contexts. It articulates the capabilities (knowledge, skills and behaviours) that define contemporary cancer nursing practice at essential, specialised, and advanced levels. It is intended to be a living document: a practical, accessible, and aspirational resource that cancer nurses, employers, educators, and health services can use to support professional growth, career development, workforce planning, and the design of education programs.

AusCaN



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Underpinned by the four domains of cancer nursing of practice

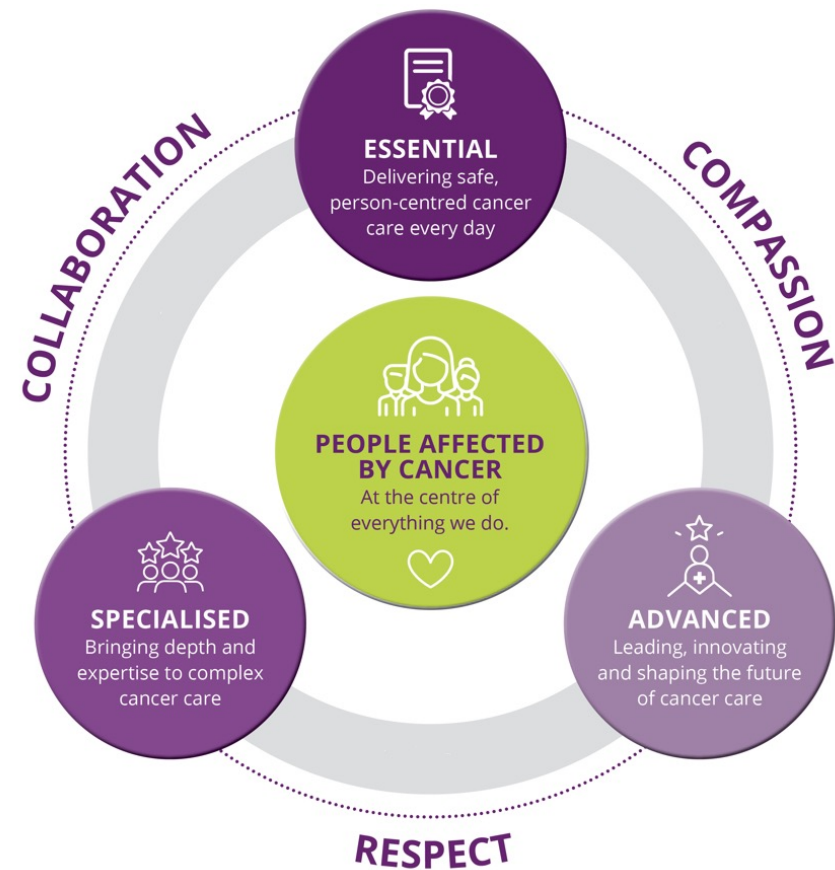


Mapping to other resources

FRAMEWORK	ESSENTIAL	SPECIALISED	ADVANCED
NMBA/AHPRA Cultural Safety Standards NMBA / AHPRA	●	●	●
National Nursing & Midwifery Digital Health Capability Framework ADHA / ANMF	●	●	●
Cancer Nursing Survivorship Capabilities CNSA	●	●	●
Nurse Educator Core Competencies WHO	●	●	●
PICS CPD Framework for Paediatric Oncology Nurses PICS (Vic)	—	●	●
Specialist Lung Cancer Nurse Model of Care Lung Foundation Australia	—	●	●
National Melanoma Nursing Model of Care Melanoma Institute Australia	—	●	●
Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse Practice and Capability Framework PCFA	—	●	●
Competency Standards for Specialist Palliative Care Nursing Practice Palliative Care Nurses Australia	—	●	●
Specialist Cancer Nurse Self-assessment tool (CaN-SAT) CNSA	—	●	●
National Framework for Genomics in Cancer Control Cancer Australia	—	●	●
Nursing & Midwifery Research Career Framework Council of Deans of Nursing & Midwifery (ANZ)	—	●	●
Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice NMBA	—	—	●
Nurse Executive Capability Framework Australian College of Nursing	—	—	●

Our Purpose

Delivering safe, equitable and person-centred cancer care through a connected, capable and supported nursing workforce.



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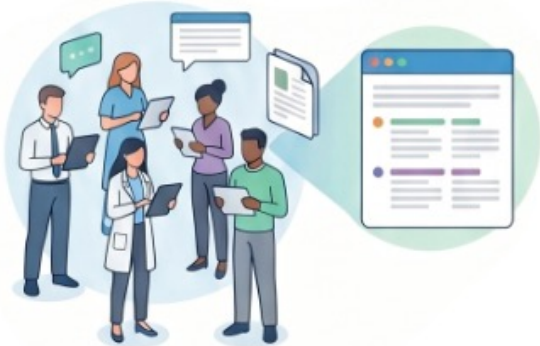
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What we are delivering

NOW

- A dedicated website
- A downloadable interactive PDF



IN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

- A toolkit for use
- Self-assessment tools
- Links to the education portal to support building capability



www.auscanframework.com.au



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[About](#)[Ecosystem](#)[Framework](#)[Capabilities](#)[Toolkit](#)[Self-Assessment](#)[Education](#)[Explore Framework](#)

Australian Cancer Nursing Capability Framework

A progression of capability supporting safe, equitable and person-centred cancer care — from graduate nurse to advanced practice.

One workforce. Many roles. Shared capability. Extraordinary impact.

[Explore Capabilities](#)[About the Framework](#)

Next Phase

Implementation, adoption and practical tools and resources that will support the framework's use across cancer nursing practice, education and workforce development.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!



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