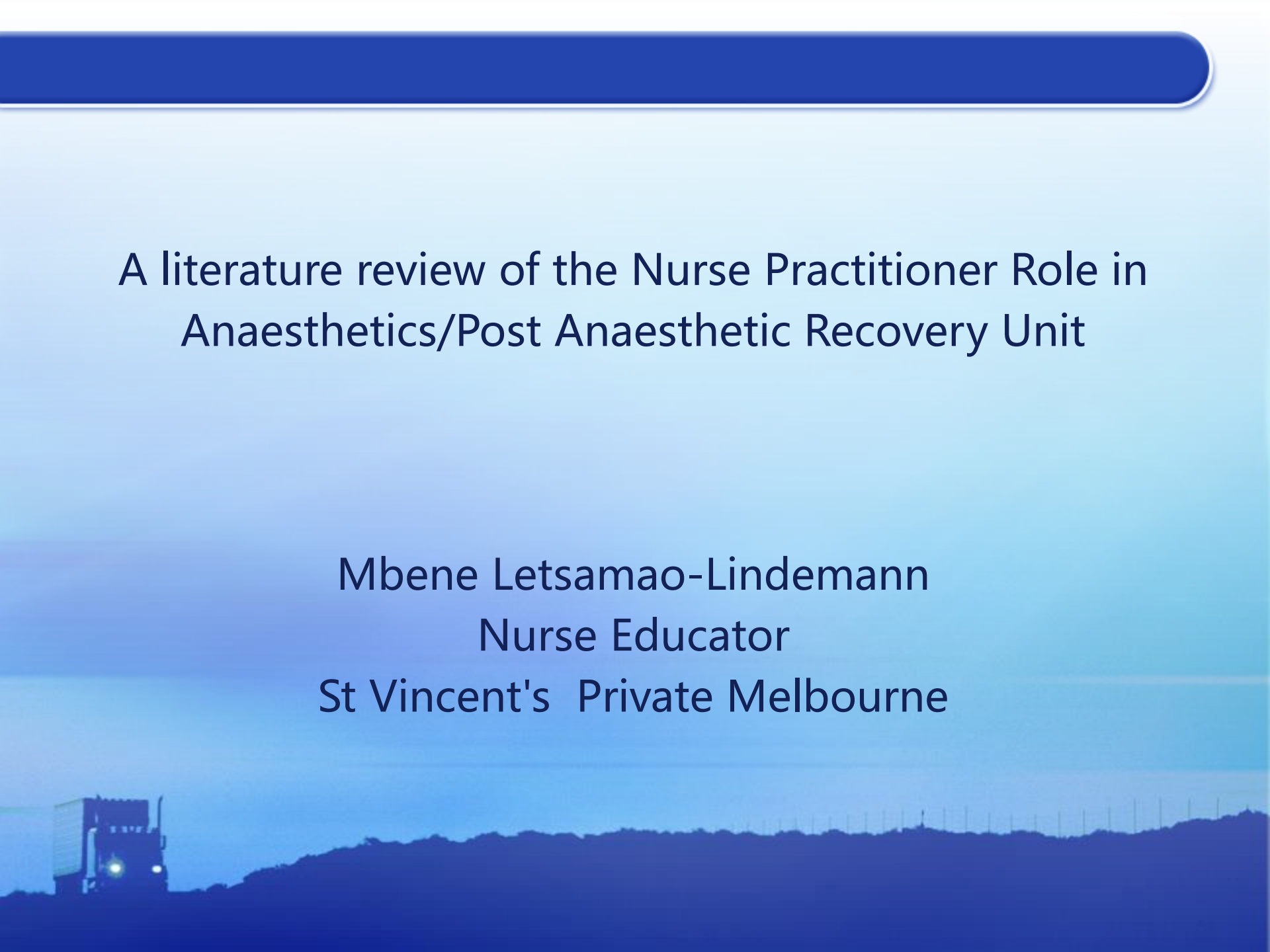


Is There Room in the Recovery Room?

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A literature review of the Nurse Practitioner Role in Anaesthetics/Post Anaesthetic Recovery Unit

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AIM

- To review the literature in relation to the Nurse Practitioner role in Anaesthetics and Recovery Room
- Barriers / Challenges
- Benefits to the nurses and the health workforce
- Conclusion



Definition:

- “ A Nurse Practitioner (NP) / Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) is a registered nurse who has acquired the expert knowledge base, complex decision making competencies for expanded practice, the characteristics of which are shaped by the context and / or country in which s/he is credentialed to practice. A Masters Degree is recommended”

(International Council of Nurses (ICN), 2008)



“ APN is “ a level of nursing practice that utilises extended and expanded skills, experience and knowledge in assessment, planning and implementation, diagnosis and evaluation of the care required.”

(Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council, ANMC)
2006)



Problem Identification

- Shortages in the health workforce
- Changing health care demand
- Change in composition and complexity of the health services.



Problem Identification Cont' d

- Need for a strong multidisciplinary team approach to meet the needs of service users has been identified as essential



Attributes of NP/APN

- Innovative model of care which allows senior experienced clinical nurses to expand and extend their scope of practice beyond the traditional nursing role
- Achieving a high degree of professional autonomy
- Includes utilisation of nurses' advanced skills and knowledge
- Extends current clinical practice
- Advanced with strong foundation in knowledge, skills and competencies.



- Role may include and not limited to direct referral of patients to other health care professionals, prescribing medications and ordering diagnostic investigations.
- NP/APN is not a new role, but rather it is a process of cementing the building blocks of knowledge and experience, gradually shaping the development of advanced nursing practice

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Barriers/Challenges

- Medical and some nursing leaders opposition to advanced nursing roles particularly those with autonomous decision making.
- NP/APN perceived a lack of support from nursing colleagues



Barriers /Challenges Cont' d

- Classification and names of the role
- Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Fiji, New Zealand, Sweden, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States of America tend to use NP
- Korea, Singapore and Switzerland used the title APN



Barriers/ challenges cont' d

- Confusion in the health service community internationally about nomenclature
- Role and scope of practice for advance nursing roles



Benefits to the Nurses and the Health workforce

- Recruitment and retention of nurses widely
- An innovative strategy that will assist in alleviating some of the workforce issues
- Augment existing services through improved access to health services and enhanced patient flow
- NP/APN can make a significant improvement to the delivery of acute and chronic health care in acute, community and residential settings.
- Improve access to services and reduce waiting times



- NP/APN are able to deliver same quality of care as doctors for a range of patients
- Some studies indicate high patient satisfaction rate



Implications to Practice

- Huge interest world wide in the NP/APN
- Nurses have a bright future in the global community
- The extended scope of practice will be able to overcome challenges and meet the health care of their communities
- Clear clarifications of roles can help achieve this
- Some political support is impeccable
- Commitment through governments funding and support is needed to further develop the roles



Implications Cont' d

- Governments must effect changes on broad scale to enable workforce development and access to a health system that has traditionally favoured medical model
- Workforce must be supported by other policy changes and governments funding and legislation, including support from stake holders.



Conclusion

- NP/APN role has various definitions depending on country
- It is important to focus on the nursing nature of this role be able to define terms which will provide unity and which are clear to inter-professional colleagues.



“ Nurse practitioners/ advanced practice nurses have foresight and a vision to be an active resource in solving the global healthcare crisis, Perhaps they are the solution”

(Sheer,2007).



*"The future belongs to those who sees possibilities before
they become obvious"*

John Scully.



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Thank You