



Well done: NBV deputy president Melodie Helund (third from left) and NBV chief executive officer Louise Milne-Roch (fourth from left) with newly endorsed nurse practitioners (from left) Leanne Davie, Karen Conte, Julie Paul and Irene Murphy.

Hard work pays off as graduates triumph

FOUR nurses working in palliative care are the latest nurse practitioner graduates to be endorsed by the Nurses Board of Victoria.

They are Julie Paul and Karen Conte from Banksia Palliative Care Services; Leanne Davie from the Royal District Nursing Service; and Irene Murphy of Melbourne City Mission Palliative Care.

There are now eight nurse practitioners across the state, in the areas of wound

management, critical care liaison, palliative care and primary adolescent health. Another seven nurses are at various stages of the endorsement process, working in rural and remote, emergency, lactation and women's health.

After speaking to board CEO Louise Milne-Roch and deputy president Melodie Helund, the new nurse practitioners say their achievement has strengthened their role as nurses working with other health professionals.

They believe their new status validates their partnership approach with general practitioners in a field that is often ignored and will help improve patient outcomes.

It also provides cutting-edge opportunities for professional development and exciting career opportunities.

All agree the process has been personally challenging. It was a long, sometimes difficult journey that demanded great personal tenacity.

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