Q6: Do you support nurse practitioner being a broad generic scope of practice (like registered nurse and enrolled nurse) and the removal of the requirement for registration to be restricted to a specific area of practice?

Yes,

Please give your reasons
This will allow NP’s to have broad scopes from which to practice - ultimately benefiting the populations we serve. It will also reduce the need for NPs to go back to Nursing Council if their roles change and expand. Broadening the scope and responsibility allows NPs to be more supportive and mentor other NPs in both clinical practice and in prescribing. Hopefully, this will make NPs more attractive in a job market that doesn't place unnecessary restrictions on a NP should they wish or need to move geographically or wish to work in a related but different area.

Q7: Do you support the focus on leadership within clinical practice in the new proposed scope of practice statement?

Yes,

Please give your reasons
We agree that clinical leadership is cornerstone to NP practice. They may also choose to demonstrate leadership in other areas such as research, quality etc but the clinical component is critical. We agree that this will allow new NPs to focus on clinical leadership.

Q8: Do you agree with the inclusion of advanced nursing skills and knowledge in the proposed new scope of practice?

Yes,

Please give your reasons
We believe that there needs to be a carefully articulated difference between what a Registered Nurse in and advanced nursing role does compared to what a NP does.

Q9: Do you agree with the proposed new scope of practice for nurse practitioner?

Yes,

Please explain your reasons or suggest changes or alternative wording
Believe that the wording is good and this covers the diversity of NP practice.
Q10: Do you support a dedicated Masters programme with a broad focus for nurse practitioner preparation?

Yes,
Please give your reasons
Agree as long as it doesn't disadvantage nurses who have already completed a clinical Masters. There needs to be the ability within the programmes for nurses to focus on their specialty eg. emergency nursing.

Q11: Do you support the Council specifying clinical learning time within the programme for nurse practitioners?

Yes,
Please give your reasons
Clinical learning time is key to consolidation of academic learning and application of knowledge to meet health care needs and role of NP. There may need to be some flexibility in this which is dependent on the individual nurse's prior learning and clinical experience. eg. a Clinical Nurse Specialist with 5 years experience would require lesser clinical learning time than a level 4 nurse completing a programme for NPs.

Q12: How much clinical learning time should be included in the programme in addition to the prescribing practicum (a minimum of 150 hours)?

150 hours should be a minimum. There will need to be individual requirements (as detailed above).

Q13: Do you think that a student must have employer support to complete a practicum with supernumerary hours?

No,
Please give your reasons
However, it would be very difficult for a nurse to complete a practicum without employer support. It is very challenging for nurses working full time to then complete supernumerary hours (sometimes within their own departments or in other areas). We are aware of nurses doing this, however it is not ideal.

Q14: What other requirements for the clinical learning hours should be specified by the Council e.g. mentor criteria, setting, competence or other assessments?

There should be a requirement for mentorship / supervision which is documented in the NP portfolio. The settings could be broad to promote innovation and remove barriers in clinical learning, but would need to be relevant to the scop of the NP.

Q15: Do you think the Postgraduate diploma in registered nurse prescribing for long term and common conditions should be a pre-requisite for nurse practitioner programmes?

No,
Please give your reasons
This may be a natural stepping stone for some nurses, but could serve as a barrier to others.

Q16: Do you support Nursing Council setting the programme outcomes for nurse practitioner programmes?

Yes,
Please give your reasons
We agree as Nursing Council is the regulatory body for all NPs.

Q17: Do you agree with the draft programme outcomes for nurse practitioner?

Yes
| Q18: Do you think that the Council has a role in accrediting tertiary courses and programmes that do not lead to nurse practitioner or registered nurse prescribing? | Yes,  
Please give your reasons  
Believe that Nursing Council should have a role as it is vital that courses are relevant, of appropriate academic rigor and to ensure consistency across institutions. |
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<td>Q19: Any other comments on the scope of practice or education programme?</td>
<td>Respondent skipped this question</td>
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