Copyright is owned by the Author of the thesis. Permission is given for a copy to be downloaded by an individual for the purpose of research and private study only. The thesis may not be reproduced elsewhere without the permission of the Author.
THE NURSE PRACTITIONER-LED PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CLINIC:
A COMMUNITY NEEDS ANALYSIS

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Philosophy in Nursing
at Massey University

Jill Clendon
1999
ABSTRACT

Aim. To determine the feasibility of establishing a nurse practitioner-led, family focused, primary health care clinic within a primary school environment as an alternate or complementary way of addressing the health needs of ‘at risk’ children and families to the services already provided by public health nurses.

Method. Utilising needs analysis method, data was collected from three sources – known demographic data, 17 key informant interviews and two focus group interviews. Questions were asked regarding the health needs of the community, the perceptions of participants regarding the role of the public health nurse in order to determine if a public health nurse would be the most appropriate person to lead a primary health care clinic, and the practicalities of establishing a clinic including the services participants would expect a clinic to provide. Analysis was descriptive and exploratory.

Results. A wide range of health needs were identified from both the demographic data and from participant interviews. Findings also showed that participants’ understanding of the role of the public health nurse was not great and that community expectations were such that for a public health nurse to lead a primary health care clinic further skills would be required. Outcomes from investigating the practicalities of establishing a nurse practitioner-led clinic resulted in the preparation of a community-developed model that would serve to address the health needs of children and families in the area the study was undertaken.
Conclusion. Overall findings indicated that the establishment of a nurse practitioner-led, family focused, primary health care clinic in a primary school environment is feasible. While a public health nurse may fulfil the role of the nurse practitioner, it was established that preparation to an advanced level of practice would be required. It is likely that a similar model would also be successful in other communities in New Zealand, however the health needs identified in this study are specific to the community studied. Further community needs assessments would need to be completed to ensure health services target health needs specific to the communities involved.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost my grateful thanks to those people who gave up their time to take part in this study. Without your input, this study would not have taken place.

Secondly, my thanks go to Gill White for her knowledge and guidance (and for always knowing I could do better).

Finally, my thanks to Gordon and Ben, who never really understood what I was doing but gave me all their love and support anyway.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT .................................................................................. ii

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .......................................................... iv

LIST OF FIGURES .................................................................... xi

LIST OF TABLES ........................................................................ xii

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION ............................................. 3

  The Public Health Nurse .......................................................... 4
  Locus of Control ...................................................................... 4
  Current Health Status of Children ......................................... 6
  Nurse Practitioner-led Clinics ................................................. 7
  Community Needs Analysis ..................................................... 8
  The Nurse Practitioner ........................................................... 9
  Thesis Overview ..................................................................... 11

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW .................................... 14

  School-based Clinics ............................................................. 15
  Community Needs Analyses .................................................. 25
  School-based Primary Health Care Initiatives in New Zealand .... 33
  Conclusion .............................................................................. 42
CHAPTER THREE: METHOD.................................................................43

  Community Needs Analysis.................................................................43
  Examples of Community Needs Analyses........................................44
  Advantages of Community Needs Analysis........................................45
  Disadvantages of Community Needs Analysis..................................45
  The Research Process.........................................................................46
  Research Proposal..............................................................................47
  Ethics Approval..................................................................................48
  Data Collection...................................................................................48
    Study Parameters.............................................................................50
    Demographic Data...........................................................................50
    Key Informants................................................................................51
    Focus Groups..................................................................................53
    The Interview Schedule...................................................................55
  The Process of Analysing the Data......................................................63
    The Quantitative Data......................................................................63
    The Qualitative Data......................................................................63
  Conclusion..........................................................................................65
  Conclusion..........................................................................................65

CHAPTER FOUR: THE DEMOGRAPHY OF THE COMMUNITY.................66

  Community Profile..............................................................................66
  Demographics of the Community......................................................67
    The Social Deprivation Index (NZDep96).......................................69
Health and Social Services Available Within the Community

Studied........................................................................... 73

School Profile.................................................................. 74

Health Statistics............................................................ 77

Child Health Statistics.................................................. 77

Pacific Island Health Statistics......................................... 80

Maori Health Statistics.................................................. 81

Asian Health Issues....................................................... 82

Refugee Health Issues................................................... 83

Conclusion...................................................................... 85

CHAPTER FIVE: RESULTS..................................................... 86

Health Needs.................................................................. 87

Question 1....................................................................... 88

Question 4....................................................................... 90

Question 2....................................................................... 92

Question 3....................................................................... 94

Health Needs Conclusion................................................ 95

Public Health Nurses..................................................... 95

Question 5....................................................................... 96

Question 7....................................................................... 98

Question 6..................................................................... 100

Public Health Nurses: Conclusion................................. 102

The Clinic....................................................................... 102

Question 8..................................................................... 102
CHAPTER SEVEN: CONCLUSION ....................................................... 137

Is it Feasible? ........................................................................... 137
Recommendations ................................................................... 141
Conclusion ................................................................................ 141

GLOSSARY OF TERMS .................................................................... 143

REFERENCES .................................................................................. 147

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Portfolio of Skills Required by an Advanced Public Health Nurse Practitioner ............................................................... 158

Appendix 2: Letters from the Massey University Human Ethics Committee and the Health Funding Authority Northern Region North Health Ethics Committee ........................................................................... 161

Appendix 3: Semi-Structured Interview Plan ........................................ 163

Appendix 4: Context Chart and Context Chart Text .................................. 165

Appendix 5: Checklist Matrices .......................................................... 171

Appendix 6: Coding ............................................................................ 186
LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1: The Research Process ................................................................. 47
Figure 3.2: Sources of Data ................................................................. 49
Figure 4.1: New Zealand Social Deprivation Index, 1996, Showing School at Centre of Study ................................................................. 71
Figure 4.2: Graphic Representation of Infectious Diseases in the Area Surrounding the School ................................................................. 72
LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1: Community Demographics Compared With National Demographics ......................................................... 70

Table 4.2: Enrolments (1998) ...................................................................................................................... 75

Table 4.3: Broad Ethnic Breakdown (1998) ..................................................................................................... 75

Table 4.4: Specific Ethnic Breakdown (1998) .................................................................................................. 75

Table 4.5: Health Concerns Identified By Caregiver At Enrolment (1998) .................................................... 76

Table 5.1: Clinics and Services Participants Named ....................................................................................... 93

Table 5.2: Health Facilities that Participants Named that had Failed and Why .................................................. 94

Table 5.3: Suggestions Made by Participants for Further Services that the PHN Could Provide ......................... 99

Table 5.4: Optimum Opening Hours for a Nurse-led Clinic According to Participants ................................ 108

Table 5.5: Ways Suggested by Participants that Specific Health Needs may be Addressed by a Nurse Practitioner-led Primary Health Care Clinic ............................................................... 111