
District Nursing Services (DNS)

Eligibility

- From babies to aged care.
- Wide range of treatments and support that assist people to stay healthy and to live as independently as possible after acute or long term illness.
- People who cannot easily access their GP.
- Need support for up to 6 weeks to get back onto your feet following a medical event, stay in hospital or an injury.
- Need support to live as independently as possible after a long term illness.
- Need support with end of life care.

Contact

The PRISM nurse may contact you at home prior to the visit from the District Nurse to obtain additional information about your care

What is available from this service?

- Individual care plan
- Help with showering, dressing, housework etc
- Wound care, IV Therapy, Palliative, pain relief, oxygen therapy and complex medication administration.
- Continence assistance
- Pre-post operative stoma advice
- Ongoing assessment
- Monitoring and ongoing education regarding medication and your condition.
- Information regarding Advanced Care Planning
- Meals on wheels at a small cost if required. (See over page for a more detailed breakdown)
- Help with shopping and cooking meals

Review

- At approximately four weeks the District Nurse will assess your needs to determine your next plan of care.
- If you require ongoing assistance after 6 weeks you will be referred onto the Needs Assessment Coordination Service.
- A District Nurse will continue to provide specialist nursing care after 6 weeks as required e.g. catheter changes, wound care, oxygen management.



Community Services Card

If you are over 65 and have been receiving domestic assistance and are not eligible for a community services card, this service will only be free for up to 6 weeks. Please discuss further to explore other options if required.

At any time you or your caregiver is able to ask questions and we would encourage you to:

- Ask the staff about your health condition and what you can do to help yourself get better.
- Ask about problems to watch for and what to do about them.
- Learn about your medication, how often you need to take these pills and how they help you etc.
- Ask the staff to show you or your caregiver any other tasks that require special skills (like changing a bandage). Then show them you can do these.
- Ask the staff about planning for your care in the future.
- Ask the staff about things to look out for that would be a sign that I needed further help, for example falling over, vomiting, feeling dizzy etc.



Services

Continence:

- Offers confidential advice on issues relating to Bladder (urinary incontinence and bowel (bowel incontinence and will explore continence aids to help you live a more independent life.
- Service operates Tuesday and Wednesday 0800 - 1630 hours

Stoma:

- Offers pre and post operative stoma advice including colostomy, ileostomy and urostomy. The Nurse will support you through this aspect of your life.
- Service operates on Monday, Thursday and Friday from 0800 - 1630 hours.

Wound Assessment Clinic (WAC):

- Offered to patients for compression dressings, doppler or fitting of stocking/hosiery.
- An appointment will be made for you to attend

If you are not happy with your treatment?

- Firstly discuss this with your District Nurse.
- If you are still not happy please contact the Charge Nurse Manager for District Nurses - 03 6872310 or write to:

District Nursing Service, Primary & Community
18 Woollcombe Street, Private Bag 911,
Timaru 7940

Special Instructions:

List things that would indicate I need to contact someone:



Contact

Clinical Nurse Manager / District Nursing: 03 6872310

District Nurse:

GP: