



CASTERTON HEALTH & HOSPITAL HAPPENINGS

CASTERTON COMMUNITY HOME NURSING PROGRAM

In August this year, the Casterton Memorial Home Nursing team (District Nurses) will be celebrating 41 years' service to the Casterton Community. The service started in August 1977 with Sister McInnes in charge. In that first year Sister McInnes provided care to 26 patients and travelled 10,313 kms to provide 3,175 home visits. Since then the service has grown considerably to 5295 annual visits with 23,000 kms travelled and provides a great service to support health and well-being care delivered to the Casterton Community.

Acting Nurse Unit Manager of the current service Debbie Gartlan manages a team of nurses providing direct clinical care and other health referrals to the various professionals.

The service currently provides daily home visits for people who require wound care management, medication assistance and support and monitoring of their overall health conditions including diabetes, heart and lung disease. They also provide short term care to people discharged from any hospital. Nurses are able to assess and organise referrals for occupational therapists, dieticians, wound specialist and continence needs.

All community home nurses communicate with your treating Doctor.

The ability to have the service delivered in the home is a great convenience especially to those who have limited transport. It is the goal of the service to provide home based care to keep you home longer and improve your quality of life.

Who can access Community Home Nursing Service?

Anyone can refer you to the service - your hospital on discharge (if you have been in hospital), or you can have a referral from your Doctor. The service accepts referrals from any Doctor for example Mount Gambier, Hamilton, Casterton, Warrnambool, Geelong, Ballarat, Portland, and on occasion from further afield when people holiday in Casterton and need a service.

If you wish to self refer, you can start by contacting MY AGED CARE ON 1800200422 who will take your details and refer you on to the service.



Community Home Nurses Debbie Gartlan, Vanessa Sheahan and Kathy McArlein

The Community Home Nursing Service operates from
8:00am – 5:30pm Monday to Friday
and
8:00am – 11:00am on weekends

How do I find out more about the service and costs?

Ring the Community Home Nurse on 5554 2555 (Monday to Friday) and they will provide you all the information you require.