

# Standardising Chemotherapy Administration for Nurses and Midwives across the State in all Practice Settings

GPSA

Nursing Practice Forum

25<sup>th</sup> June 2010

Maeve Downes/ Georgina Neill



**Government  
of South Australia**

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SA Health



Introduction Nursing & Midwifery Office

Chemotherapy Project

CanNET Cancer Projects/Initiatives



## The Chief Nurse Role & future direction of the N&M Office

- Professional Leadership & providing advice & broad direction on a diverse range of N&M issues including but not exclusive to:
  - Person Centred Care and Practice
  - Workforce planning & reform;
  - N&M retention, attraction & recruitment;
  - Legislation, Regulation – policy development;
  - Education, training & research development;
  - Collaborative Partnerships;
  - Influence strategic thinking, planning & partnering.

# Adjunct Professor Jenny Beutel





# Nursing & Midwifery Updates

- > Professional News
- > Project Updates ie NP toolkit
- > Scholarships, Grants
  
- > Web site:
- > [www.nursingsa.com](http://www.nursingsa.com)
- > [www.health.sa.gov.au](http://www.health.sa.gov.au)



# State-wide Chemotherapy Project



# The Communio Review of South Australian Cancer Services 2009

Improving the credentialing and competence assurance of clinical cancer services staff, including medical practitioners, nursing staff, pharmacists, radiation therapists and physicists

## **Specific to this Project Recommendation 9.2 :**

A state-wide standard for the credentialing of chemotherapy nurses be adopted.



# Cancer Safety and Quality Focus

## **Safe Delivery NO 1 Priority**

Outcomes Focused

Measure, Monitor ,Report

Evidenced Based Best Practice

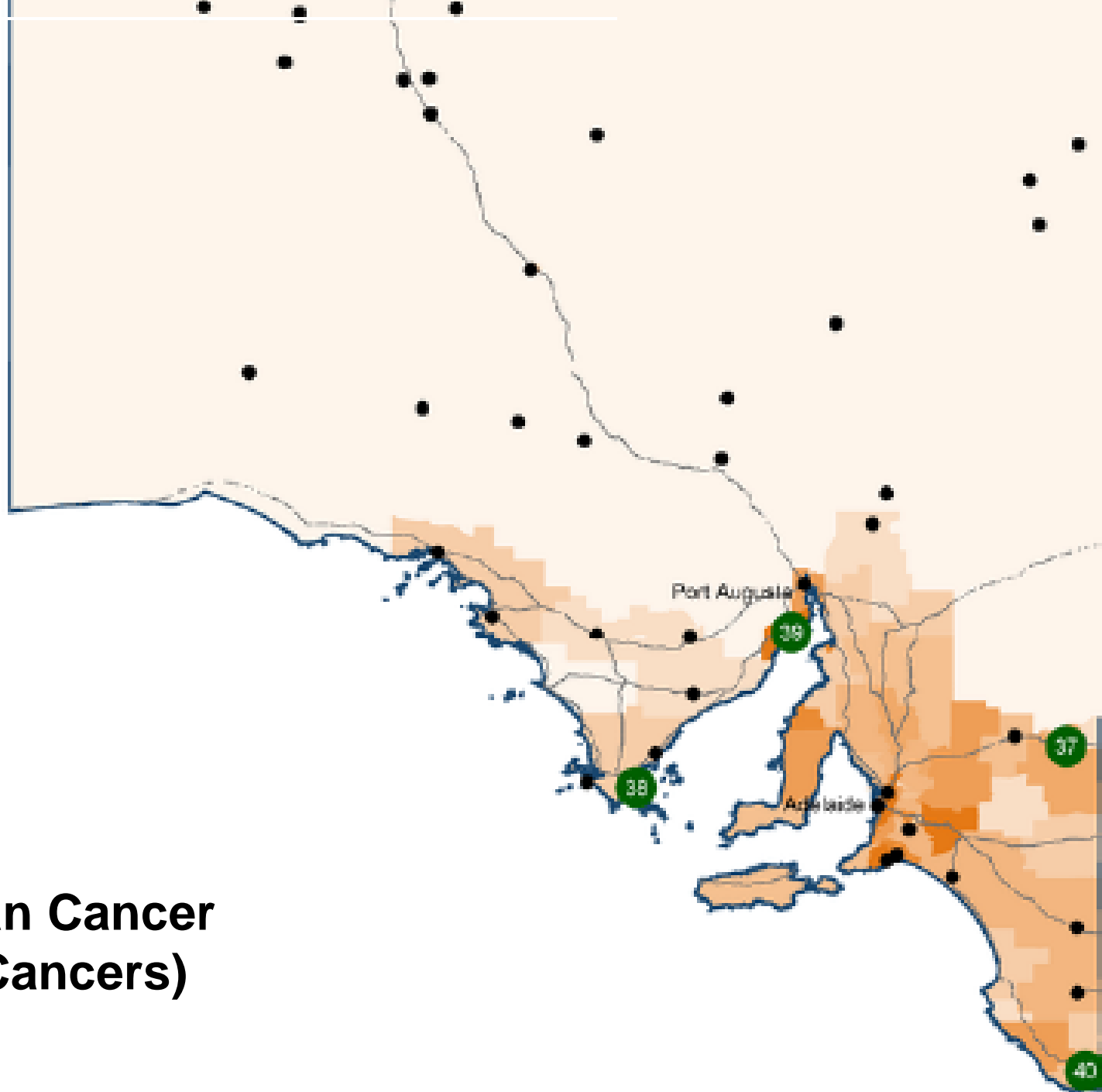
Reform, models of care,

New roles, Advanced practice

Networking, Sharing, Multidisciplinary

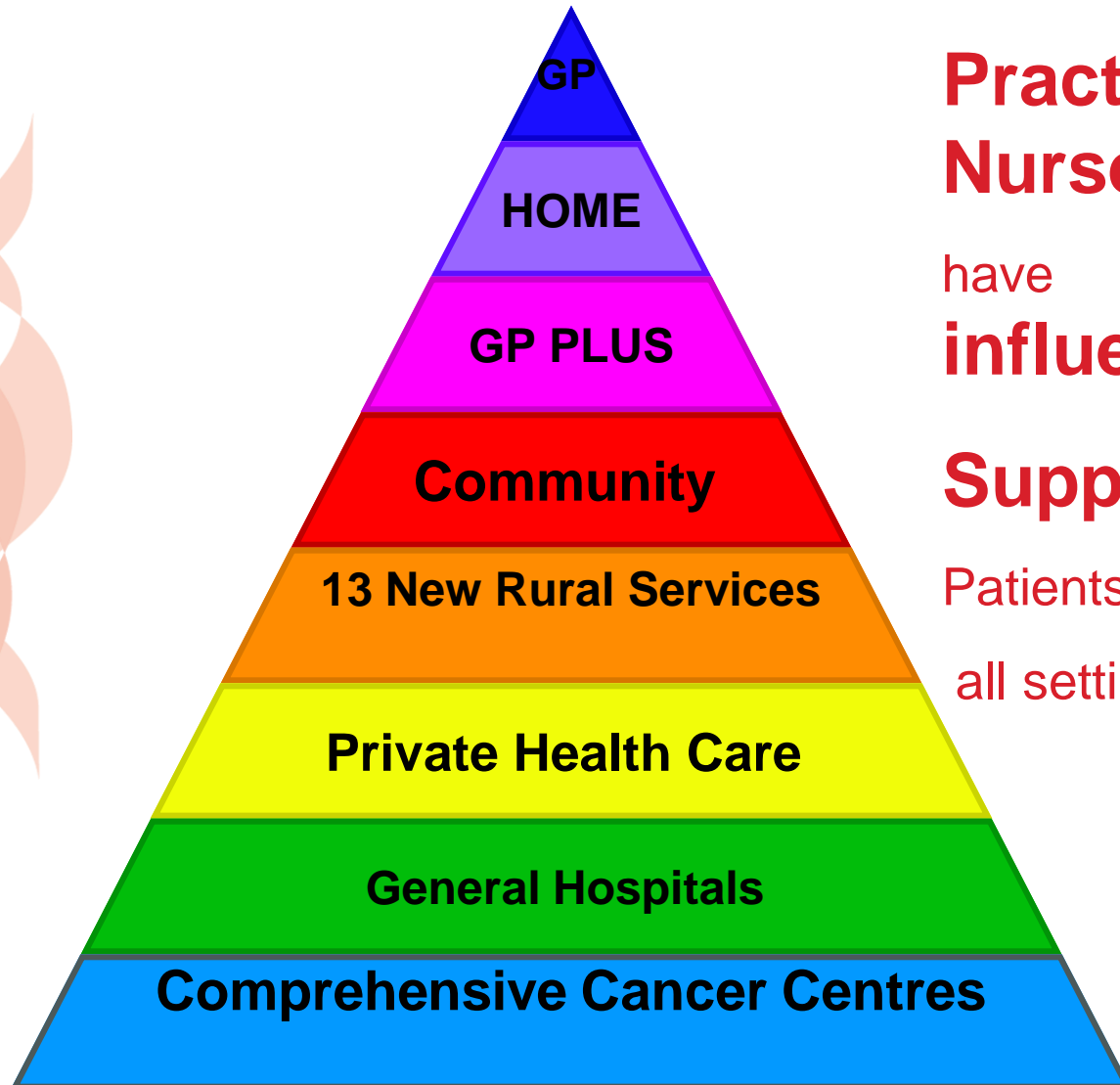
Cancer incidence  
annual count

- (400,750]
- (250,400]
- (150,250]
- (100,150]
- (70,100]
- (50,70]
- (40,50]
- (30,40]
- (20,30]
- (10,20]
- (5,10]
- [0,5]



## South Australian Cancer Incidence (All Cancers)

# Chemotherapy Administration Settings



**Practice  
Nurses**

have

**influence &**

**Support**

Patients across  
all settings



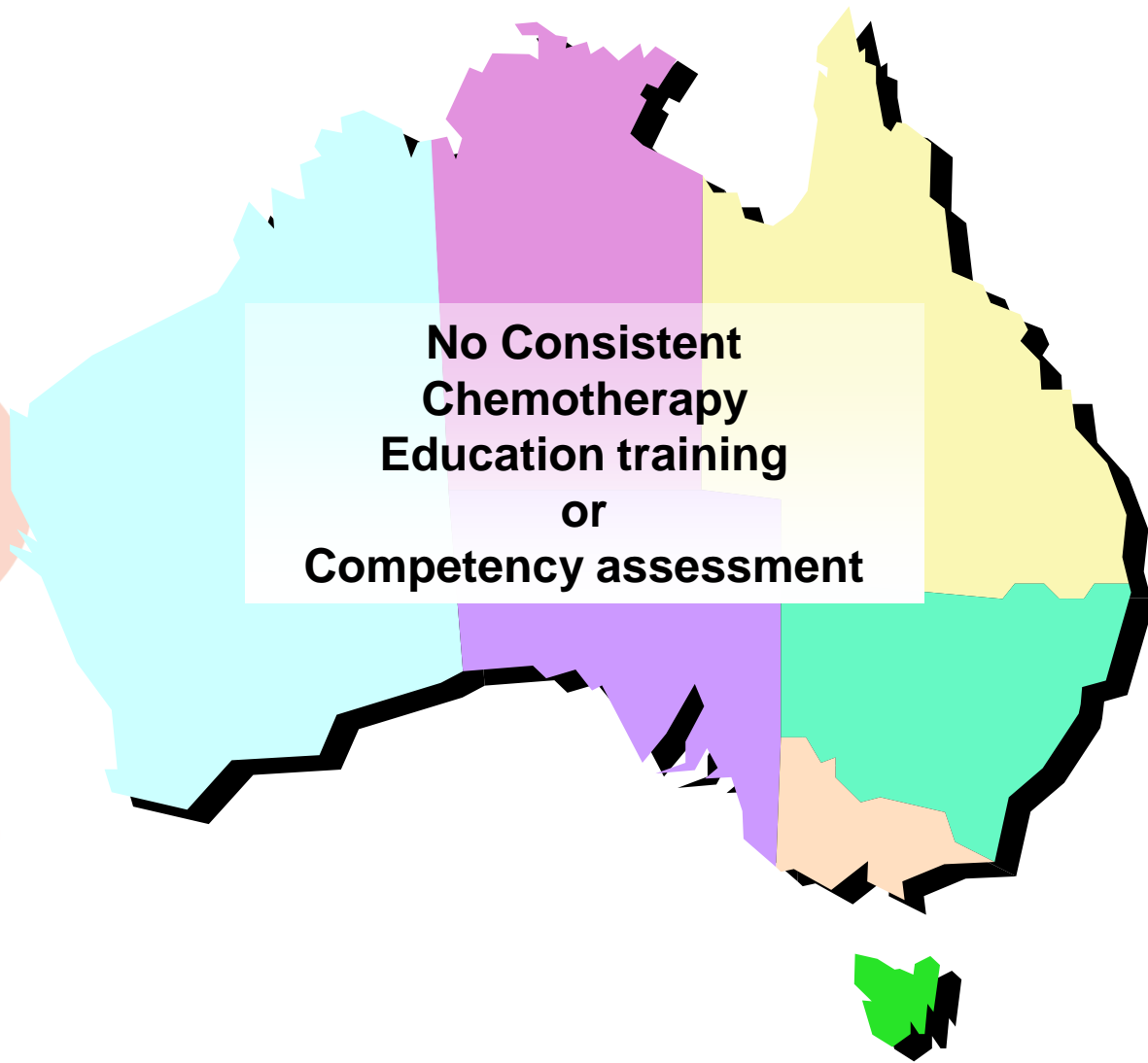
# Practice Nurse Involvement in Cancer Care

- > Quiz
- > Regularly see patients with cancer?
- > Know their diagnosis?
- > Know their treatment plan?
- > Administer IV Chemotherapy ?
- > Administer Oral Therapy ?

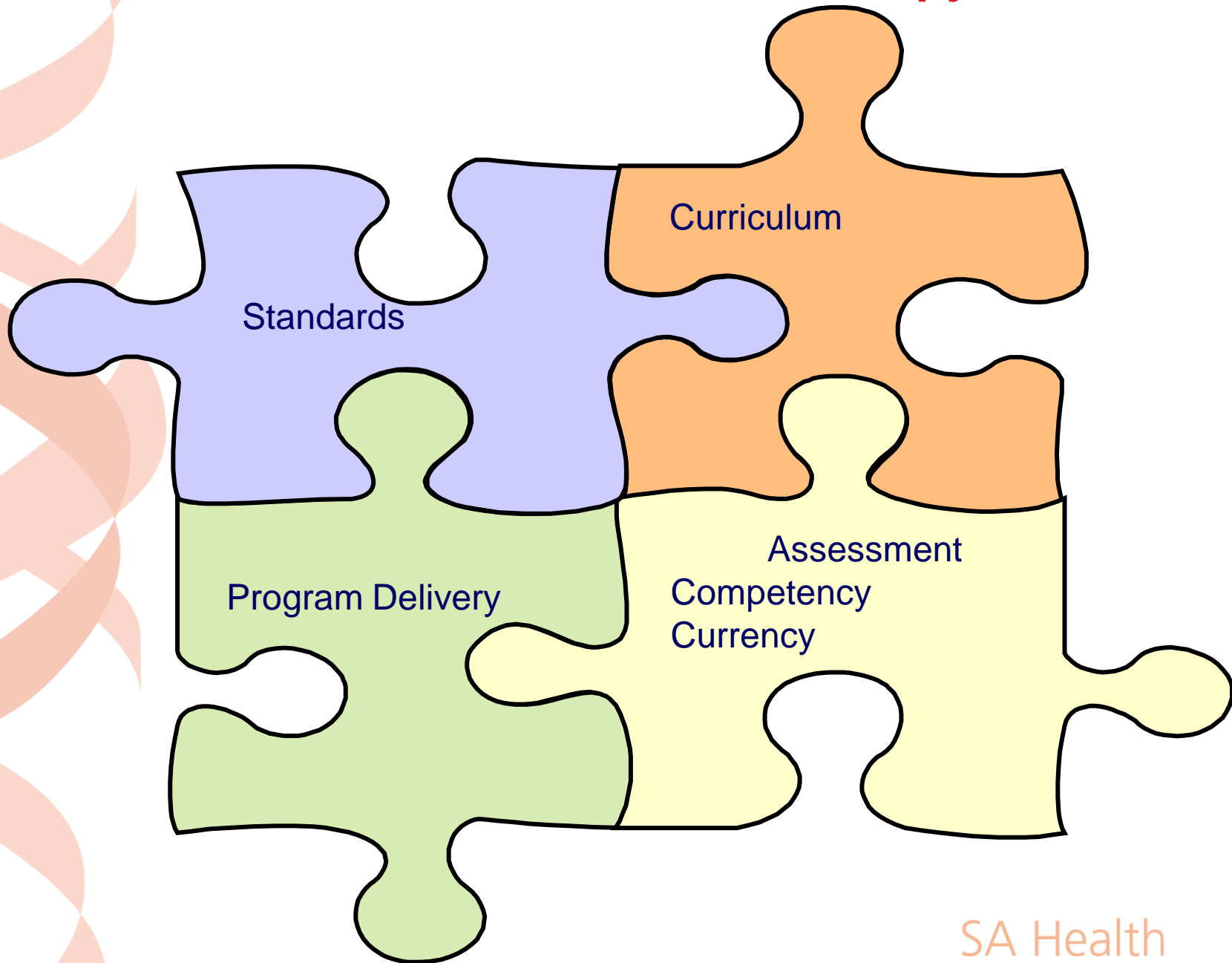


# Representative Call

- > Value Practice Nurse
- > On State-wide Nursing representative group
- > Chemotherapy
- > If Interested contact GPSA
- > I will then be in contact



# *One state-wide Standard of Chemotherapy Practice*



# STANDARDS



**State-wide Standard Chemotherapy  
Final Draft Stage  
Cancer Clinical Network**



# SA Risk Rated Services

- > **Category 1: *Low Risk/complexity***  
Common cancer, standard infrastructure needs + OH&S equipment
- > **Category 2: *Moderate Risk/Complexity***  
Outpatient/community chemotherapy, inpatient toxicity care, access to specialist cancer nurses with competency in vesicant.
- > **Category 3: *High Risk/ complexity***  
inpatient and outpatient by cancer specialist workforce, rare tumours, malignant haematology, bone marrow transplant & paediatrics



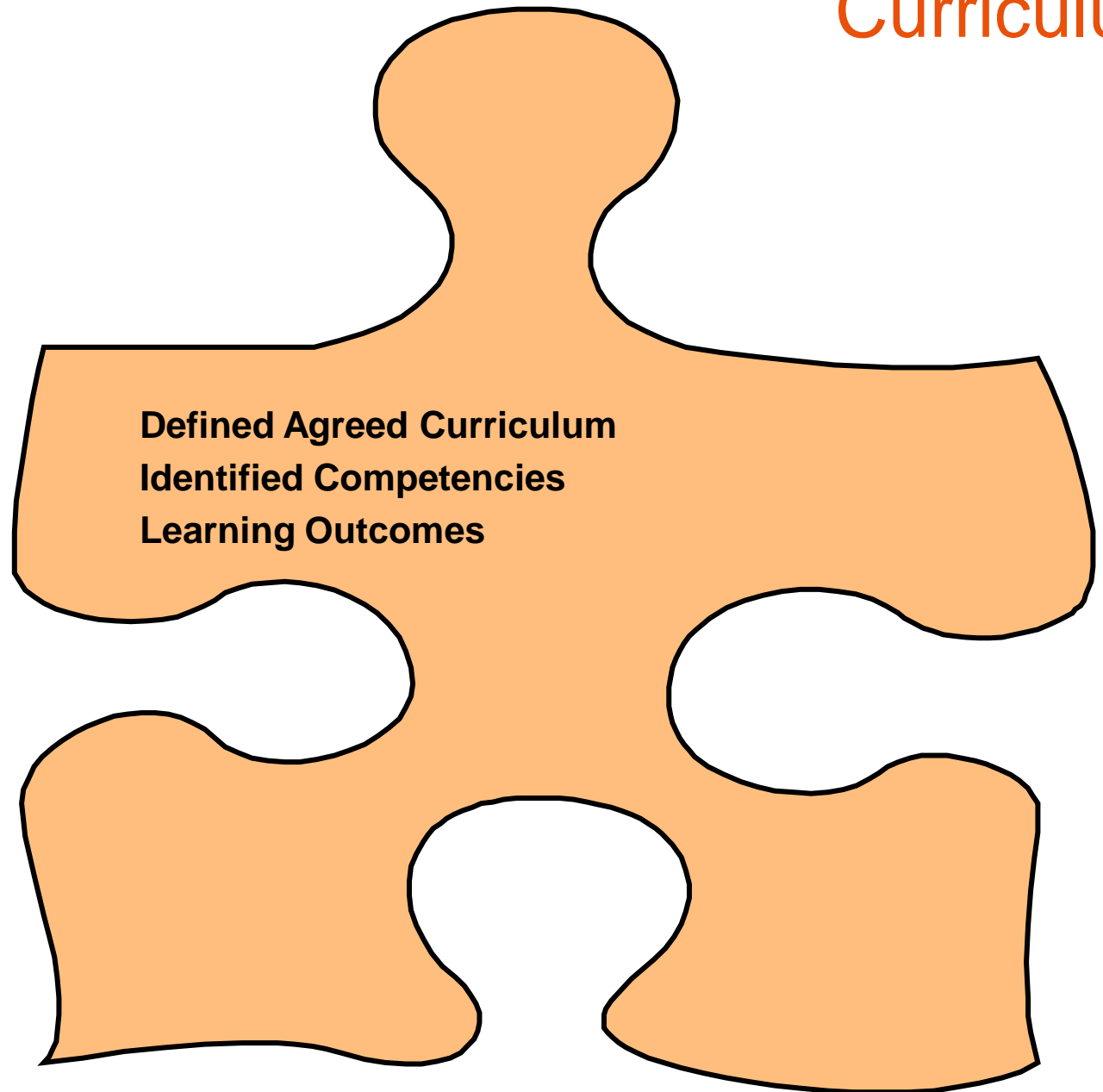
# Phased Standards Introduction

- > Only qualified registered nurses administer chemotherapy.
- > ALL Nursing staff involved in chemotherapy administration must have satisfactorily completed theoretical and clinical education prior to administering any agent and have demonstrated competency
- > Service has policies, procedures, and or guidelines for verification of training, continuing education and competence for all clinical staff
- > Continuing competence should be assessed, ideally on an annual basis.
- > Further education and training should be undertaken when new agents, protocols or equipment are introduced



# Responsibilities of the Nurse

- > Ensuring medication is stored appropriately prior to administration
- > Verifying the chemotherapy order and supportive medications
- > Verifying order with patient laboratory parameters.
- > Administering associated treatments in a safe and timely manner.
- > Ensure immediate and longer term effects are managed
- > Ensuring that all professional and legal responsibilities for administration of medications are met.
- > Documentation
  - > COSA Guidelines for the Administration of Cancer Chemotherapy Nov 2008





# Chemotherapy Competencies

1. Safe Handling of Cytotoxic Drugs and Related Waste
2. Administration of Oral Cytotoxics
3. Cytotoxic Drugs
4. Protocols and Prescriptions
5. Patient Assessment
6. Educating the Patient and Carer
7. Safe Administration of Intravenous Cytotoxic Drugs
8. Prevention and Management of Extravasations

# Program Focus

- > point of care' focus
  - User focused
  - Promotes safe practice
  - Strategic for developing key external relationships
  - Efficiency and standardisation
  - Supports National Continuing Professional Development (CPD) (e.g. EdCaN & Cancer Learning)

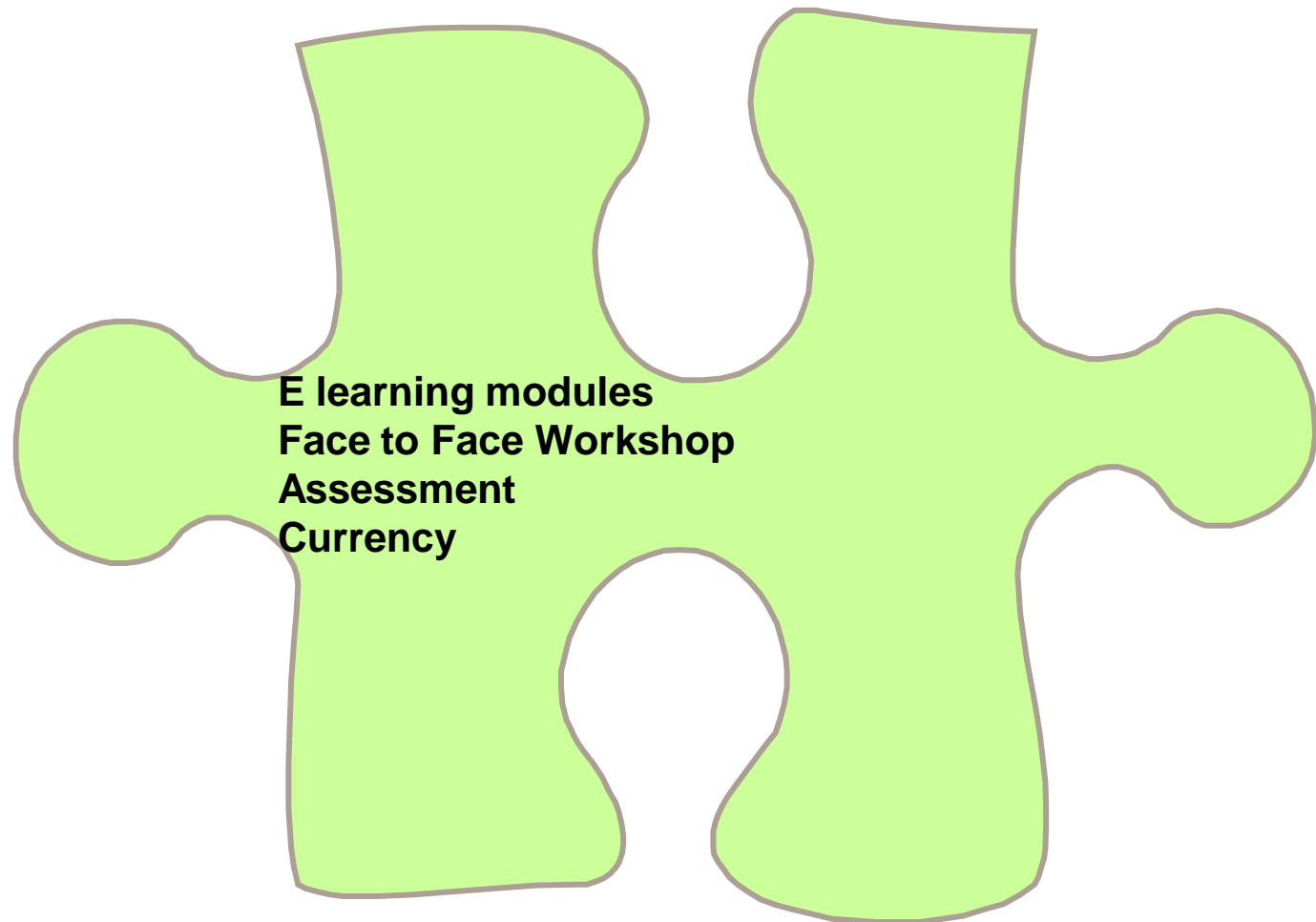
# Program Alignment

Alignment of nurses chemotherapy program with national frameworks

- Cancer Learning
- EdCaN
- CNSA

Maintain focus as a point of care resource aimed to provide a standardised quality learning program

# Program Delivery





# Potential Chemotherapy Program

1. Competency based E learning Modules
  - Completed in own time and own pace
  - Theory, case presentations, multiple choice quiz links to resources evidence etc
  - Certificate of completion
2. Workshop
  - Face to Face, Simulation Demonstration communication decision making networking
  - Consolidation experience option of rural mentorship placement with linked service
3. Independent Competency Assessment
  - Context of own environment
4. Annual reassessment



# Competency Currency

- > Competence assessment cannot solely be based on demonstration of theoretical content, knowledge or technical skills. It should involve more than one performance based assessment method. (EdCaN)



# SA Chemotherapy Program

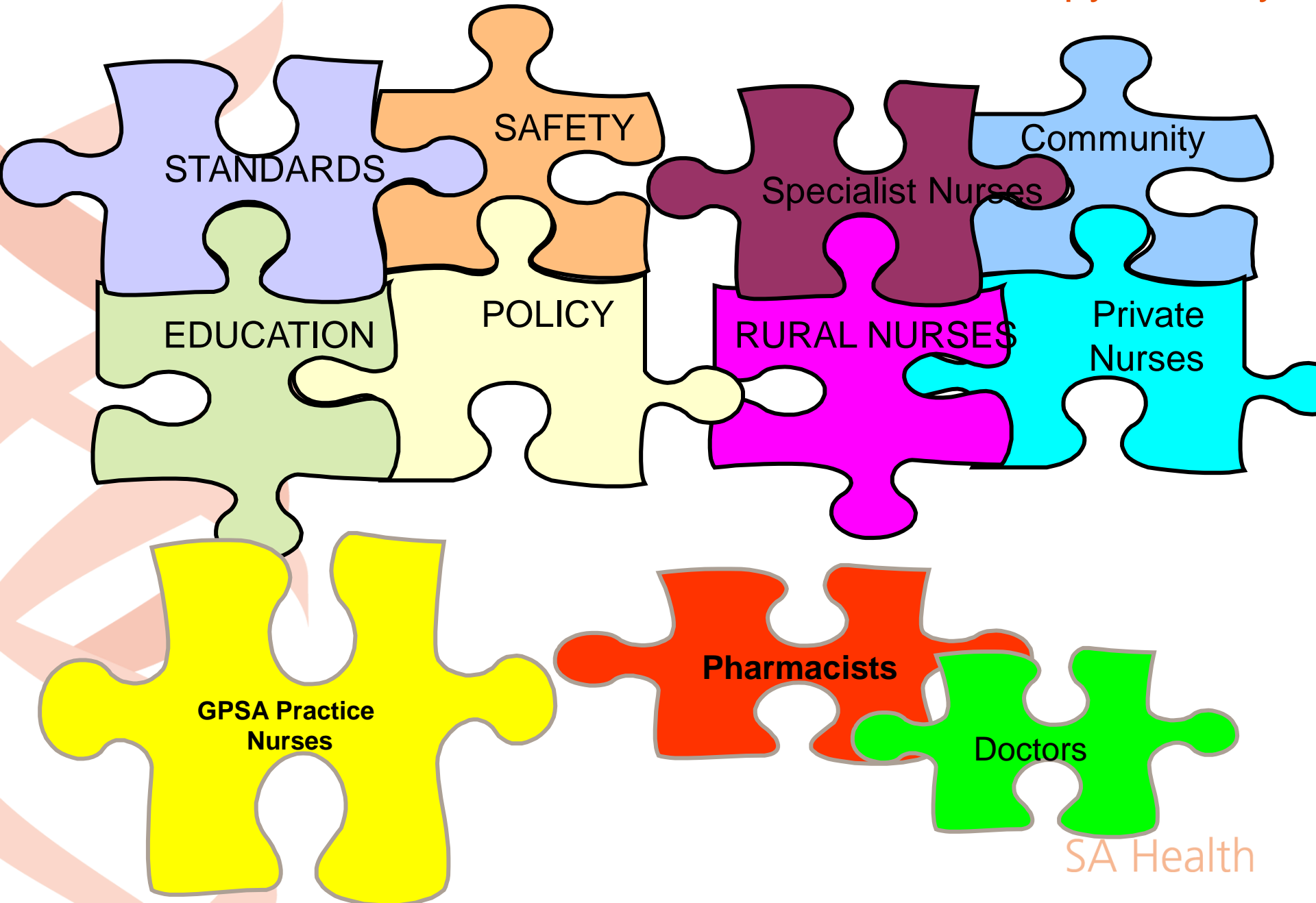
Consistent workshop open to all RN/RM's who have satisfactorily completed e learning foundation course.



# CNSA Competency Assessment

- 1. Demonstrate a minimum level of theoretical knowledge in each specified area**
- 2. Satisfactorily demonstrate practical skills and clinical competence**
- 3. Satisfactorily demonstrate ability to care for the patient and their family.**

# Individual Pieces of the Safe Chemotherapy Delivery





CanNET

Georgina Neill

Cancer Projects/Initiatives



# Cancer Activity

- > Cancer Clinical Network:
  - Leadership Governance Standards Incident reporting
- > CHSA Hospitals
  - Delineation Framework
- > Cancer Plan 2010-2015
- > Communio
  - Metro Review
  - Indicators Project
- > State-wide Chemotherapy Education/  
Competency
- > Regional Cancer Services Grant

# Contacts

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