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Enlighten

News from the CNPBC



September 2022



Indigenous Cultural Safety, Humility and Anti-Racism Practice Standard

The College of Naturopathic Physicians (CNPBC) is pleased to share that the College has adopted the Indigenous Cultural Safety, Humility, and Anti-Racism practice standard along with ten other health profession regulators in BC. The standard is informed by the recommendations from the [In Plain Sight report](#) and supports the College's commitment of eliminating Indigenous-specific racism and fostering culturally safe practice in BC's health care system. It acknowledges that Indigenous-specific racism exists in health care and sets expectations for naturopathic doctors to provide culturally safe and appropriate care to BC's First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples.

[Review the new standard](#)

[Read the announcement](#)

The 11 colleges, including the CNPBC, who have adopted this standard are marking the launch of the standard with a ceremony on September 30, as part of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We'll be sharing more information over the coming days and weeks.

What does the implementation of this practice standard mean to me in my practice?

This practice standard provides clear expectations of how registrants should conduct themselves in their interactions with Indigenous clients. The standard includes principles organized into six categories that registrants are asked to incorporate into their practice:

Self reflective practice (it starts with me) - Cultural humility begins with a self-examination of the health professional's values, assumptions, beliefs, and privileges embedded in their own knowledge and practice, and consideration of how this may impact the therapeutic relationship with Indigenous clients. Cultural humility promotes relationships based on respect, open and effective dialogue, and mutual decision-making.

Building knowledge through education - Health professionals continually seek to improve their ability to provide culturally safe care for Indigenous clients.

Anti-racist practice (taking action) - Health professionals take active steps to identify, address, prevent, and eliminate Indigenous-specific racism.

Creating safe health care experiences - Health professionals facilitate safe health care experiences where Indigenous clients' physical, mental/emotional, spiritual, and cultural needs can be met.

Person-led care (relational care) - Health professionals work collaboratively with Indigenous clients to meet the client's health and wellness goals.

Strengths-based and trauma-informed practice (looking below the surface) - Health professionals have knowledge about different types of traumas and their impact on Indigenous clients, including how intergenerational and historical trauma affects many

Indigenous Peoples during health care experiences. Health professionals focus on the resilience and strength the client brings to the health care encounter.

What resources are available to help me meet this standard?

Registrants can consult the following resources to support their learning about the standard and its expectations:

[Videos series to support culturally safe care](#) (developed by BCCNM and CPSBC)

[Practice Standard Companion Guide](#) (developed by BCCNM and CPSBC)

[Learning resources](#) (developed by CPSBC)

CNPBC acknowledges that registrants will need additional support to implement successfully and meaningfully the standard. We are committed to create space and hearing from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous registrants. Considering the significant pre-existing work and engagement conducted by BCCNM and CPSBC, the 11 colleges are discussing how this can best be done collectively, while hearing about profession-specific elements.

We are committed to continually updating this information and sharing it frequently so that registrants feel supported in applying the standard to their practice.

If you have any questions about the standard, please contact Michelle Payne, Regulatory Practice Consultant, at MPayne@cnpsc.bc.ca.

Eagle flies up so high it looks down and sees all of humanity as one, cannot see our various nations or small differences, Eagle just sees us as one people.

When we hold a feather, we remind ourselves of that perspective, and can speak with respect and honesty to each other like the family that we all are.

– Aaron Nelson-Moody / Tawx'sin Yexwulla, Artist

Reminder About Medical Masks

The CNPBC would like to provide clarity regarding the use of masks in the naturopathic clinical setting.

Though there is no mandate or College requirement regarding masks, the College continues to promote the [April 2022 guidance from the public health officer \(PHO\)](#). The PHO recommends the use of medical masks by practitioners and patients when there is close, in-person patient contact such as in medical offices and private practices.

Naturopathic doctors have the best knowledge of their practices and should use that knowledge, along with available resources such as the BC Centre for Disease Control and WorkSafeBC, to make decisions regarding the use of masks in their offices. In addition, it is recommended to continue diligent hand washing, immunization, respecting personal space, regular cleaning and disinfection, ensuring appropriate ventilation, and staying home when sick.



Update on Aesthetic Procedure: Microneedling

The CNPBC Board has reviewed the requirements for the practice of microneedling. The Board was assisted in its review by the recommendations of the Quality Assurance Committee.

Effective September 7th, 2022, the College will not require any certification for the practice of microneedling. Registrants are reminded that when utilizing this and any other modality, they will continue to be required to meet the Professional Standards and Scope of Practice Standards. Included in these standards is a requirement for naturopathic doctors to ensure they have the competence to:

- make decisions about whether the patient would benefit from the activity, having considered:
 - the known risks and benefits to the patient;
 - the predictability of outcomes of performing the activity;
 - other relevant factors specific to the patient or situation.
- carry out the activity safely and ethically;
- safely manage the intended and unintended outcomes of performing the activity.

The College recommends that all registrants familiarize themselves with these standards. They can be located [here](#).

Pharmanet Access Through PRIME

The College has extended the deadline for registrants to sign up for Pharmanet Access through PRIME until December 31, 2022. Access to Pharmanet will be a condition to gaining or renewing certification in Prescriptive Authority. Any registrant who has not already done so is strongly encouraged to begin the process of signing up as soon as possible in order to ensure that their access request is processed by PRIME in time to meet the December 31, 2022 deadline.

More information on how to sign up can be found at this link

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmanet-bc-s-drug-information-network/prime>

Questions about signing up should be directed to PRIMESupport@gov.bc.ca or 1-844-397-7463.

Paxlovid and ND Scope of Practice

Registrants are advised that the oral antiviral Covid-19 treatment Paxlovid has been approved for use by naturopathic doctors who are certified by the College in Prescriptive Authority.

One of the component parts of Paxlovid is the drug ritonavir which remains excluded from the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors in all forms except as part of Paxlovid.

Registrants should also be aware that Paxlovid prescriptions may be subject to eligibility criteria based on scarcity of supply of this drug. Links to these criteria and other guidelines and resources regarding Paxlovid and Covid-19 treatment from the BCCDC and Ministry of Health can be found below.

Registrants are reminded that some of the therapies discussed in these materials may be outside the scope of practice for naturopathic doctors and are encouraged to contact the College if they are unsure about whether a particular drug or therapy is within their scope of practice.

Resources:

BCCDC Covid-19 General Treatment Information

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19-care/treatments#Mild-Moderate>

Covid-19 Treatment Health Care Provider Information - BCCDC

<http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Professionals-Site/Documents/COVID->

[treatment/Health_Care_Provider_Info-Paxlovid-remdesivir-sotrovimab.pdf](#)

Clinical Practice Guide For The Use Of Therapeutics In Mild-Moderate Covid-19 – BC Covid Therapeutics Committee (CTC)

http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Professionals-Site/Documents/COVID-treatment/ClinicalPracticeGuide_Therapeutics_MildModerateCOVID.pdf

Paxlovid Prescription Criteria Form – BC Ministry of Health

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/forms/2368fil.pdf>



New Practice Standards

On September 21, 2022, the College published two new practice standards that address informed consent and treating in groups. Practice Standards are legally enforceable standards which set out requirements related to specific aspects of naturopathic doctors' practice. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the [Practice Standard: Informed Consent](#) and [Practice Standard: Treating in Groups](#).

Criminal Record Checks

All registrants of the College are required to submit a new criminal record check to the College every five years.

Under the *Criminal Records Review Act*, all registrants of a health professional regulatory college, including non-practicing registrants, are required to submit this information to their college as a condition of their registration.

The College is required to investigate registrants who do not comply with the *Criminal Records Review Act*. Registrants' ability to complete their registration renewal may also be affected.

Information on how to complete a criminal record check and submit the required information to the College can be found on the website at this link:

<https://cnpbc.bc.ca/become-an-nd/common-questions/>. Registrants can log into the Registrant Online Self Service (ROSS) portal to see the expiry date of their current criminal record check at any time.

PHO Provides Updates on Covid-19 Orders Affecting Regulated Health Professionals

In an [Information Bulletin](#) issued September 15, 2022, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) has advised that she has decided to **continue not requiring** health care professionals in private practice to be vaccinated against COVID-19. This decision was made “given the high rates of vaccination in these professions, and the current state of the pandemic.”

Health profession regulatory colleges continue to be legally required to record the COVID-19 vaccination status of their registrants under the [Health Professionals COVID-19 Vaccination Status Information – June 10, 2022 \(PDF\)](#) order. Colleges must collect this information from all registrants, regardless of work setting.

PHO guidance for mask use and infection prevention and control for health professionals and their patients/clients remains unchanged. Registrants should review [Mask Use and Infection Prevention & Control Guidance for Health Professionals – April 1, 2022 – PDF](#) for details and refer to resources from sources such as the [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) and [WorkSafeBC](#) to determine how to apply these recommendations to their own practice setting.



A Note From the Registrar

With summer in the rear-view mirror and September winding down, we all begin focusing on the many things we want to accomplish before the end of the year.

Where has the year gone? At the College, we've been busy with the Board Committees, BCHR, and the day-to-day issues that concern health regulators everywhere.

I hope you find this month's *Enlighten* of interest, with information on the new Practice Standards, responsibilities of NDs when performing microneedling, and the recent PHO update regarding vaccination, among other topics. I truly appreciate the positive comments

we've been receiving on the newsletter and hope you will continue to provide input.

And now, Thanksgiving is just around the corner. I hope we can all take time to spend it with our nearest and dearest.

Stay well.

Carina Herman

We acknowledge with respect that the land on which we gather is the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples - sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), sel̓íl̓wítulh (Tseil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) nations whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.



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