

Standards of Practice Framework

Naturopathic Physician practice is diverse and complex. Both regulators and registrants need standards that will guide and set expectation for practice.

A standard is the minimum level of acceptable performance. It is an expected and achievable level of performance against which actual performance can be measured.

The framework seen below, outlines three types of standards which all fall under the title of Standards of Practice.

The **Professional Standards** give clear expectations of what is historically expected of a professional. The general principles can apply to any professional but in this case are particular to an ND.

The **Scope of Practice Standards** are based on the activities that NDs can carry out and defines what needs to be considered prior to carrying out these activities. In essence is considers, “I **can** do this, but **should** I do it?”

The **Practice Standards** expand on some of the requirements identified in the Professional Standards and provide more clarity on topics such as informed consent, record keeping, etc.

Together, the Standards of Practice set out the requirements for registrants and make expectations for practice clear and enforceable.

