

Controlled Substances and the Education Requirement

January 2017 Teleconference

What

are Controlled Substances?



Restricted by federal law

**High risk of misuse,
addiction, diversion**

**Treat a wide variety of
conditions**

Controlled

substances

Controlled Drugs
(e.g. Testosterone)

Medical Marijuana

Narcotics
(e.g. Morphine)

Benzodiazepines
(e.g. Diazepam)



Legislative

Framework

- **Federal and Provincial**
- ***Controlled Drugs and Substances Act***
 - **Changes in 2012**
 - **Prohibitions on prescribing some drugs**
- ***Nursing Act, 1991***
 - **Prohibitions on prescribing, selling and compounding controlled substances**



What

**regulatory
mechanisms are
required to support
safe, effective and
ethical practice?**



Informed

by Evidence

- **Analysis of federal and provincial legislation**
- **Comprehensive literature review**
- **Review of other regulatory bodies**
- **NP survey¹**
- **Key stakeholders consulted**
- **Assessment of the risk of harm**



National

Harmonization

Gathered evidence

Identified education competencies

Identified courses

Agreed upon next steps

Access

to Treatment

Ontario NPs frequently assess clients with conditions that may require controlled substances¹

Ontario NPs frequently ask physicians to prescribe for their clients¹

Currently: **clients not receiving care**

care delayed

costs to system

Risks to the public

Misuse, addiction and diversion

Canada is second largest per capita consumer of opioids²

Ontario has highest rate of opioid use in Canada³

From 2005 to 2011, 250% increase in ER visits in Ontario due to opioid withdrawal, overdose, intoxication, psychosis, harmful use³

Proposed Regulation Changes

**Enabling NPs to
prescribe controlled
substances**

**Requiring education to
acquire competencies**

Proposed By-Law Changes

**Enabling the College to post
and remove information
about the education
requirement**

Courses approved by Council

**Athabasca University :
Prescription and Management of
Controlled Drugs and
Substances course**

**University of Ottawa:
Prescribing Narcotics and
Controlled Substances course**



Deadline:

March 10, 2017

Regulation timeline set by Minister

Processing time with Universities

Accessible courses

Previous

Completion

- Ontario NPs for professional development
- NPs who moved from another Canadian jurisdiction
- Council approved courses retroactively
- Detailed information in FAQs at cno.org

When

Can NPs Prescribe Controlled Substances?



When regulations come into effect

AND

When education is complete

Summary

March 10, 2017

Education can be completed in advance

Restriction if education not completed

FAQs at cno.org



Comments & Questions



References

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2. National Advisory Committee on Prescription Drug Abuse. (2013). *First do no harm: responding to Canada's prescription drug crisis*. Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. Retrieved from <http://www.ccsa.ca/Resource%20Library/Canada-Strategy-Prescription-Drug-Misuse-Report-en.pdf>
3. Expert Working Group on Narcotic Addiction. (2012). *The Way Forward: Stewardship for Prescription Narcotics in Ontario* (Report to the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care). Retrieved from http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/mental/docs/way_forward_2012.pdf



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