

COLLEGE OF NURSES OF ONTARIO'S Academic Reference Group

November 12, 2018

What is the Academic Reference Group?

The Academic Reference Group is made up of educators and representatives of the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) who share information and collaborate on nursing regulatory issues of mutual interest and concern.

The group includes 10 Ontario nursing educators who have volunteered to represent all nursing programs in the province.

The goal of the group is to provide an opportunity for discussion and collaboration on regulatory issues of importance to both educators and the College of Nurses of Ontario.

New Member

Anne Marie Shin welcomed our new member Kumaran Mahathevan from Centennial College

Program Approval

An update discussing the launch of the new program approval process was provided. In Jan. 2019, orientation for the first three baccalaureate nursing programs will start. The development of Indicator 8 (recent graduates' perception of their readiness to practice) and Indicator 9 (preceptor's perception of student's readiness to practice) continues. External consultants and a Subject Matter Expert (SME) group are working on these Indicators. A literature review has been completed across all nursing categories to identify themes related to patient safety and ethical practice.

RPN Exam Update

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has been selected as the vendor for the new RPN exam. CNO will work with British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP) to develop this new exam. CNO is hosting 1:1 teleconferences with each PN education program to review the changes and answer questions regarding the new regulatory exam. Regular updates about PN exam development will be communicated on the CNO website. A number of volunteer opportunities will be available during the exam development process, which will also be posted on www.CNO.org.

Employer Reference Group

The Employer Reference Group has been divided into two sectors, long-term care and multi-sector group. The long-term care group held their first meeting on Nov. 12, 2018. The multi-sector group will meet early in 2019.

Nursing Practice Scope of Changes

CNO provided an update on RN prescribing. Future RN prescribing education program design and delivery will be informed by the following:

- alignment with Council-approved program approval framework processes,
- full integration of RN prescribing competencies, and

GROUP MEMBERS

We encourage you to share your feedback with any member of the Academic Reference Group:

Sandra DeLuca
Fanshawe College, Western University

Laura Gedcke-Kerr
Queen's University

Monica Parry
University of Toronto

Sylvie Larocque
Laurentian University/Université Laurentienne

Paula Mastrilli
George Brown College

Mary McGrory
Humber Institute of Technology & Advance Learning

Linda Patrick
University of Windsor

Karen Poole
Lakehead University

Kumaran Mahathevan
Centennial College

Janet Anderson
College of Nurses of Ontario

Anne Marie Shin
College of Nurses of Ontario

Donna Rawlin
College of Nurses of Ontario

Laura Jackson
College of Nurses of Ontario

- education design and delivery by Council-approved baccalaureate education nursing programs.

Draft RN prescriber competencies are currently being revised, integrating feedback from stakeholder consultations. Next steps include a presentation of a draft regulation to Council in Dec., a circulation period pending council approval and submission to the Ministry.

As it relates to NPs prescribing diacetylmorphine (heroin) and Methadone, Council decided that that NPs do not require any additional education. NPs are expected to have the knowledge, skill and judgment and understand the risks associated with prescribing. There also are existing regulatory mechanisms in place to protect the public. As of Oct. 23, 2018, all health care professionals who dispense prescription opioids are required to apply a warning sticker to the prescription bottle container or package and provide patient information handout to accompany the drug.

The Applicant Portal and Electronic Criminal Record Checks

The Applicant Portal was successfully launched Sept. 2018, providing more self-service to applicants, in both French and English. CNO requires all applicants for registration or reinstatement to provide a recent Canadian Police Criminal Record Check (PCRC). Each applicant is responsible for setting up an account and verifying their identification. This electronic PCRC process eliminates the paper process, with much quicker results, some are available within 24 hours.

Entry to Practice (ETP) Competencies

An update was provided on the Canadian Council for Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRNR) revisions of the current RN ETP competencies. A survey was circulated to RN members across Canada in Sept. to validate the proposed RN ETP Competencies. Nearly 10000 RN's completed the survey. Final RN ETP competencies will be ready by end of November. When CCRNR approves the new competencies, it is expected that schools will need 1 to 1.5 years to integrate them into their program.

Code of Conduct

CNO is developing a Code of Conduct that reflects what the public expects from Ontario nurses. To assist with the development of this Code, CNO obtained feedback from a number of stakeholders. Analysis and integration of stakeholder feedback is currently being completed. The Code of Conduct will be reviewed for approval, at the December Council meeting.

Next meeting: Jan. 28, 2019, 0930-1130 hrs.

Please share this update with other nursing educators at your school.