

COLLEGE OF NURSES OF ONTARIO'S Academic Reference Group

April 9, 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.

Program Approval

An update on this standing item was provided on the completion of the Pilot project, and the feedback received regarding the current indicators. The current focus is to streamline and consolidate the indicators and evidence sources, as well as developing outcome indicator 8 (recent graduates rating of their preparation of their practice) and indicator 9 (preceptor rating of student's readiness to practice). CNO will be recruiting volunteers for an advisory group that will assist with the development process for these indicators.

Nursing Practice Scope of Changes

CNO received a letter from the Minister of Health in September 2017 regarding proposed changes to the NP, RN and RPN scope of practice. Changes in nursing scope of practice align with the Ministry's *Patients First Action Plan for Health Care* to increase a person's access to the right care at the right time. Proposed changes for nursing roles were discussed, obtaining initial feedback from Educators. CNO looks forward to working with key stakeholders and the government with regards to these proposed changes.

Applicant Portal

CNO is launching a new Applicant Portal, using an electronic system to replace the current Verification of Course Completion (VCC) process. Teleconferences were held with Colleges and Universities to discuss the development of the new portal, including links via the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS) to obtain final nursing program completion dates. Discussion with OCAS and Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) continue, with system testing planned this summer and an expected launch date for early Fall 2018. The current manual VCC process will continue until further notice.

RN Prescribing and Education

A discussion of the draft document outlining the competencies and education considerations required to qualify an RN with the authority to prescribe took place. Members praised the document as an excellent first pass. Members provided valuable input to further enhance the document. Some points

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

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

Patricia Brown
Centennial College

Janet Anderson
College of Nurses of Ontario

Farah Ismail
College of Nurses of Ontario

Anne Marie Shin
College of Nurses of Ontario

Donna Rawlin
College of Nurses of Ontario

Laura Jackson
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discussed were emphasizing pharmacology topics and including a focus on the side effects of medications. Members also suggested to include a distinction between clinical hours and simulation hours as part of program curriculum development. Comments and suggestions will be integrated into the document as the draft is further refined. The Education team would like to thank everyone who contributed. Members can send other comments or questions to [Irene Wu-Lau](#), Education Consultant

Updates

PN Exam

Requests for proposals (RFP) process was closed on March 23, 2018. The current plan is to have a preferred vendor selected by early May. More updates to follow.

French Nursing Meeting

A date has been set for May 9, 2018 at the CASN offices in Ottawa Ontario. The purpose is to address French nursing education, specifically Registration exams from an academic and regulatory perspective. Discussion will also include the results of the study that explored the experience of French applicants and faculty.

Administration Points:

- Introduced the Manager of Practice Support: Laura Jackson to the group. She will be providing the Academic Reference Group with information for future meetings
- Proposed dates for 2018 and 2019 will be sent out in the near future.
 - o The next date is proposed to be **June 18, 2019 from 9:30 am-11:30 am**
- Michelle Acorn has resigned as part of the Academic Reference Group: We thank Michelle for her expertise and her input while she was a member.
- We are now starting the membership recruitment process as per our Terms of Reference
- Janet Anderson has passed the leadership chair to Anne Marie Shin, Manager of Education Program, with support from Donna Rawlin.

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