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Enlighten

News from the CNPBC



January 2023

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (the “AGM”) of the College of Naturopathic Physicians of British Columbia (the “College”) will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, online via Zoom webcast. The AGM will be followed by an education session.

Stay tuned for further information in upcoming Newsletters.



Have you always wanted to be on a Board Committee?

If you haven't experienced Board involvement, you should. It can be very fulfilling! Much of the Board's most important work is done by and through Committees focused on key areas of the College's mandate. Committees inform Board decision-making and make recommendations for Board consideration. They are made up of both registrant and public members, taking advantage of the special skills, knowledge, and even personal interests of each. It's a great way to learn how the College functions, understand its mandate, put your skills and experience to good use, and meet colleagues. Terms are for three years with the possibility of reappointment. These Committees are currently recruiting registrant members.

- Discipline Committee: deals with matters referred to it by the Inquiry Committee or by the Board as a whole. Meeting frequency varies according to the number of disciplinary hearings scheduled. [Terms of Reference, Discipline Committee](#)
- Inquiry Committee: investigates complaints and concerns regarding registrant conduct, competency, and/or ability to practice; decides on appropriate action. The Committee meets monthly—virtually at this time. [Terms of Reference, Inquiry Committee](#)
- Registration Committee - Ensures that future or potential registrants meet the conditions and/or requirements to be granted registration with the College. [Terms of Reference, Registration Committee](#)

Committee work is rewarding. If you think it might be for you, just email registrar@cnpbc.bc.ca.



Ordering Home Sleep Apnea Testing

In cooperation with the Medical Services Commission's Guidelines and Protocols Advisory Committee and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia, the Ministry of Health published a provincial standardized requisition form for home sleep apnea testing (HSAT).

This form is now required for all practitioner referrals to an accredited HSAT facility and can be accessed [here](#).

Only authorized individuals are permitted to refer for Level III HSAT studies. Authorized individuals for referral are limited to:

- registrants of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC
- registered BC Nurse Practitioners
- registrants of the College of Naturopathic Physicians of BC.

Naturopathic Physicians may refer for HSAT for the diagnosis of sleep disordered breathing with the following understanding:

1. The authorized ordering health professional is the Naturopathic Physician and results are to be sent to them. The patient may also request the result to go to another primary care provider.
2. If further Level I testing is required, the patient must be referred to a Medical Doctor (e.g., GP or specialist) for follow-up and referral for testing.
3. Naturopathic Physicians are not permitted to write a prescription for CPAP, or for a trial for CPAP.
4. The patient is informed that the test or service is not covered by MSP, unless they are referred by a family physician/GP, nurse practitioner or specialist, and the patient may have to pay for the test directly.

When HSAT is the identified appropriate diagnostic test, authorized health professionals are expected to refer only to an accredited facility. A list of accredited HSAT facilities is available [here](#).

BLS/CPR-HPC with AED and NALS

Registration renewal 2023 closed on January 1, 2023.

A majority of registrants submitted their registration application on time and updated their certifications and BLS /CPR for HCP with AED plus NALS.

Make sure you remain current with your CPR-HPC with AED and NALS certificates.

There are two courses required.

- NALS is required for those registrants who hold any certifications. NALS must be renewed every two years.

- BLS/CPR for HPC with AED is required for all registrants and must be renewed prior to expiry.

Coursework can be completed through various agencies listed on the [CNPBC website](#).

Reminder: In April 2022, the CNPBC Board of Directors approved the return to in-person training for all BLS/CPR for HCP with AED and NALS. CNPBC will no longer accept virtual training for these courses.

Please send us a copy of your certificate to registration@cnpsc.bc.ca when completed.



Restricted Activities Document Updates

The CNPBC [Restricted Activities](#) document has been updated to include the following revisions:

- 5 (1)(d) - Revised Limits and conditions for Injectable Fillers
- 5 (1)(e) - Added links to PHSA competencies and decision support tools

- 5 (1)(i) - New Limits and Conditions for the use of IM/IV iron

Revised limits and conditions for injectable fillers

This revision was to align the Restricted Activities document with the recently updated Aesthetics Injectable Filler Certification changes. The updated limits and conditions are as follows:

*Registrants must hold CNPBC certification in **Injectable Fillers and Prescriptive Authority** and current qualification in Naturopathic Advanced Life Support (NALS) prior to providing injectable fillers.*

Registrants must hold Provisional 1 Injectable Fillers certification or higher to utilize Hyaluronic Acid injectable fillers in the lips, cheeks, chin, marionettes, nasal folds (with cannula only) and jawline.

Registrants must hold Provisional 2 Injectable filler certification or higher to utilize any Health Canada approved injectable fillers (Hyaluronic acid, Biostimulators, and threads) into the glabella, forehead, nose (bridge, tip and nasolabial junction), pyriform, nasal folds (with needle), tear troughs, eyelids, temples and body.

Injecting dermal fillers into the genitalia is prohibited.

Added links to PHSA competencies and decision support tools

This revision was to help registrants locate the documents being referenced in the Restricted Activities Document.

New limits and conditions for the use of IM/IV iron

The CNBPC Board, with the input of the PDR and the QAC Committees, have reviewed the use of intravenous (IV) and intramuscular (IM) iron by Naturopathic Doctors (NDs) in BC. It was determined that the use of parenteral iron would be permitted by NDs, with the following limits and conditions:

- NDs must hold certification in Prescriptive Authority.
- NDs must hold certification in IV therapy to perform intravenous therapy.
- NDs must hold valid Basic Life Support and Naturopathic Advanced Life Support.

- NDs must take *additional education** in IV and IM iron administration prior to administering IV or IM iron.

** Additional education is structured education, e.g., workshop, course, or program of study designed so that registrants can attain the competencies required to carry out a specific activity as part of naturopathic practice. Additional education builds on the entry-level competencies of naturopathic doctors; identifies the competencies expected of learners on completion of the education; includes both theory and application to practice, and includes an objective, external evaluation of learners' competencies on completion of the education. The term additional education does not refer to a course or program approved for a CNPBC certification.*

A revision log has been added to the first page of the Restricted Activities Document to assist you to in finding changes to the original document.

The College wishes to remind registrants that, as with all treatments, you are required to meet all your professional obligations under the Bylaws, Codes of Conduct and Ethics, and various practice standards while providing this treatment, including but not limited to managing all the intended and unintended consequences of the treatment. The College recommends that registrants regularly and thoroughly review the complete [Restricted Activities Document](#)



Advertising Policy

Registrants are reminded of their responsibility to comply with the bylaws, standards, codes and policies of the College, which can be reviewed on the College website at this link:

<https://cnpbc.bc.ca/about-us/legislation-bylaws/>

This includes the College [Advertising Policy](#) which is an important component of the regulatory framework for naturopathic doctors. Like most regulated professionals, naturopathic doctors are subject to advertising rules regarding misinformation, misrepresentation of services, and ethical standards. These rules are in place to promote public safety and confidence in the profession.

Violations of the College Advertising Policy account for more complaints and compliance investigations than any other subject by a large margin. These investigations are costly for the College and may result in registrants facing fines or other remedial actions. Advertising violations often come to the attention of the Ministry of Health or other government bodies such as Health Canada, which has the potential to jeopardize the privilege of self-regulation for naturopathic doctors.

The College has made repeated efforts over the years to remind registrants of their obligation to understand and comply with the advertising rules. On January 15, 2019, the College distributed [notice to all registrants](#) that advertising violations would be immediately referred to the Inquiry Committee and be subject to \$500 minimum fines per infraction.

Registrants are reminded that this notice remains in effect. Advertising violations continue to be referred to the Inquiry Committee, which will continue to seek \$500 fines per infraction at minimum, in addition to other sanctions as may be appropriate.

Common advertising violations seen by the Inquiry Committee include: advertising services requiring certification without being certified to provide those services, use of patient testimonials, false or unverifiable claims, and misuse of titles.

Registrants are encouraged to refer to the Advertising Policy regularly and to conduct regular checks of any advertising or marketing materials which relate to themselves or their places of practice. Registrants are responsible for their advertising and marketing materials even if they were not created by the registrant. This includes work done by a web designer or marketing professional on their behalf. Ignorance of the content of one's own advertising or marketing activities is not a defensible explanation for failing to comply with the rules.

The College thanks all registrants for recognizing the importance of this issue and taking swift action to ensure compliance.



PharmaNet Access Reminder

This is a reminder that the deadline for registrants to sign up for PharmaNet access by enrolling in PRIME is November 15, 2023. Access to PharmaNet will be a condition to gaining or renewing certification in Prescriptive Authority as of November 15, 2023.

Any registrant who has not already done so is strongly encouraged to enrol in PRIME as soon as possible so that their enrolment can be processed in time to meet the deadline.

Why is access to PharmaNet required?

The College made the decision to require access to PharmaNet to promote best practices among prescribing registrants and to promote better safety and health outcomes for patients.

Access to PharmaNet ensures that prescribers have a full and accurate picture of their patients' prescription history, which helps to prevent over-prescribing and adverse drug interactions. For patients, this means increased safety and better health outcomes. For prescribers, this means less risk of causing an adverse reaction to treatment in their patients, and therefore less risk of facing complaints or liability associated with negative patient experiences.

Questions about how to enrol in PRIME?

For more information on how enrol in Prime, including video tutorials, visit these links:

[PRIME landing page](http://www.gov.bc.ca/pharmanet/PRIME) (www.gov.bc.ca/pharmanet/PRIME)

[CNPBC-Newsletter-May-2022.pdf](#)

Any questions about enrolling in PRIME should be directed to PRIMESupport@gov.bc.ca or 1-844-397-7463.



A Note From the Registrar

Happy New Year to all, and for those who celebrate Lunar New Year all the best to you in 2023.

And now, spring is just around the corner! Have you noticed the snowdrops coming up? Always a happy sight this time of year.

The College is busy preparing for our AGM on May 3. We are hoping for another big turnout, so please save the date in your calendar and we'll look forward to seeing you online. Details will be forwarded closer to the date.

This might be the year you consider getting involved with Board Committee work. Three Committees are seeking new members: Registration, Discipline, and Inquiry. Information in the article above.

Thank you to all who renewed their registration promptly. We all know how busy November and December can be.

We continue to await updates from government on the new Health Professions and

Occupations Act (Bill 36) and amalgamation. We will advise you as soon as we receive more information.

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 x̓m̓əθk̓w̓əy̓əm (Musqueam) nations whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.



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Our mailing address is:

College of Naturopathic Physicians of British Columbia
605 Robson Street
Suite 840
Vancouver, BC V6B 5J3

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