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Enlighten

News from the CNPBC



June 21, 2024

Amalgamation Update

The amalgamation of the College of Chiropractors of BC, College of Massage Therapists of BC, College of Naturopathic Physicians of BC, and College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of BC to form the College of Complementary Health Professionals of BC (CCHPBC) will occur on June 28, 2024.

Updates on the amalgamation project have been compiled in [this document](#). The updates include information about registration, CCHPBC Board appointments, brand identity, draft bylaws, and common questions

Registrants can submit questions not answered in the document through the [Contact us](#) form on the [amalgamation website](#).



Advertising and Drugs

Registrants are reminded that their advertising and marketing materials must comply with all applicable legislation, including the *Food and Drugs Act* and *Food and Drugs Regulation*. Section C.01.044 of the *Food and Drugs Regulation* is particularly important for all registrants who prescribe drugs as part of their practice:

C.01.044 *If a person advertises a prescription drug to the general public, the person shall not make any representation other than with respect to the brand name, the proper name, the common name and the price and quantity of the drug.*

For clarity, this means that any registrant who advertises any product which is considered a drug under the Food and Drugs Act is prohibited from advertising information related to:

- The safety or efficacy of the drug;
- Conditions treated by the drug;
- The likely or intended effects of the drug;

Any advertising related to a drug must be limited to the name, price and quantity of the drug. **This includes botulinum toxin/botox, dermal fillers, HcG, semaglutide/Ozempic, and any other substance that is considered a drug under the Food and Drugs Act.** Registrants who advertise any drug in a manner that is contrary to C.01.044, or any other provision of the *Food and Drugs Act*, will be referred to the Inquiry Committee for investigation.

Registrants can review the *Food and Drugs Act* [here](#), and the *Food and Drugs Regulation* [here](#). Registrants should also regularly review College standards, including the Standard on Advertising and Communication with the Public, on the [College Standards of Practice page](#).



Scope of Practice – New Drugs

On June 5, 2024, the Board approved recommendations from the Pharmacopoeia and Diagnostics Referral Committee for changes to the scope of practice for

naturopathic doctors as it relates to several new prescription drugs in Canada.

The following drugs are now **approved** for use in practice by naturopathic doctors certified in Prescriptive Authority:

- Maralixibat
- Mirikizumab
- Somapacitan
- Avatrombopag and its salts
- Evinacumab – **approved for continuation therapy only**
- Odevixibat and its salts
- Relugolix and its salts
- Vutrisiran or its salts – **approved for continuation therapy only**
- Brimonidine tartarate
- Rimegepant and its salts
- Ritlecitinib and its salts
- Etrasimod and its salts
- Olipudase alfa – **approved for continuation therapy only**
- Roflumilast

The following drugs are **excluded** from the scope of practice for all naturopathic doctors:

- Teclistamab
- Tremelimumab
- Calaspargase pegol
- Efgartigimod alfa
- Relatlimab
- Elranatamab

- Epcoritamab
- Etranacogene dezaparovec
- Fidanacogene elaparovec
- Inebilizumab
- Landiolol and its salts
- Metreleptin
- Capivasertib and its salts

The drugs which are excluded or subject to limits or conditions on their use have been added to Part II of the [Standards, Limits and Conditions for Prescribing, Dispensing and Compounding Drugs](#). Registrants are reminded to check this document regularly, and to contact the College if they have any questions about standards or scope of practice relating to drugs.



Standards Updates

The College has published a new document for registrants to review, the [Naturopathic Doctors Scope of Practice Standards, Limits, Conditions](#). This document was created to consolidate information with respect to scope, limits

and conditions for registrants. It will replace the following two existing CNPBC documents:

- *CNPBC Restricted Activities for Naturopathic Doctors: Limits and Conditions*
- *Scope of Practice Standards*

This document contains information regarding Naturopathic Doctors' (NDs) scope of practice as set out in the [Naturopathic Physicians Regulation](#) (Regulation) under the [Health Professions Act](#). Additional scope of practice information is included in CNPBC [Bylaws](#) and [Standards of Practice](#):

Part 1 sets out the scope of practice standards.

Part 2 sets out limits and conditions related to restricted activities and the naturopathic doctors scope of practice.

Part 3 sets out limits and condition on activities that are not restricted.

Information in this document is subject to change as CNPBC policy is revised or legislation is amended. CNPBC registrants will be notified of changes.

In addition, the Board has approved the [Practice Standard: Certifications](#). The purpose of this practice standard is to set out the requirements and restrictions that apply to CNPBC certifications. Registrants should review this document for information relevant to their practices. CNPBC approved certification courses will continue to be available to registrants on the College's website.

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 any treatment, including but not limited to managing all the intended and unintended consequences of the treatment.



IV Curcumin

In May 2017, the College placed a [moratorium](#) on the initiation of any new patients to intravenous (IV) curcumin. This was due to the reports concerning the death of a 30-year-old woman in California on March 2017 after administration of an IV curcumin product. On May 1, 2017, FDA received another adverse event report concerning a 71-year-old male patient who developed a hypersensitivity reaction after the administration of an IV curcumin product compounded by the same company. It was determined that the inactive ingredient used in compounding this product was ungraded and not suitable for human consumption; the ingredient used in error by the company had likely led to the two serious adverse outcomes. No other major adverse reactions from IV curcumin were reported since these two events. This moratorium was a temporary measure until the College could perform further research to ascertain safe sourcing of and methodology for the IV administration of curcumin.

While there are risks associated with IV curcumin, registrants are required by the [ND Scope of Practice Standards, Limits, Conditions](#) to ensure they are competent

in any area they practice. Specifically, it requires that naturopathic doctors ensure they have the competence to:

- a. Make decisions about whether the patient would benefit from the activity, having considered:
 - i. the known risks and benefits to the patient
 - ii. the predictability of outcomes of performing the activity
 - iii. other relevant factors specific to the patient or situation
- b. Carry out the activity safely and ethically
- c. Safely manage the intended and unintended outcomes of performing the activity

Effective June 05, 2024, the Board has lifted the moratorium on IV Curcumin after considerable review. The college wishes to remind registrants of their responsibility to meet all professional obligations under the [Bylaws](#), [Codes of Conduct and Ethics](#), [Professional Standards](#), [ND Scope of Practice Standards](#), [Limits, Conditions](#) and various [Standards of Practice](#).

We acknowledge with respect that the land on which we gather is the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples - skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), sel̓íl̓wítulh (Tsleil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (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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