

[View this email in your browser](#)

Enlighten

News from the CNPBC



February 2024

CEO Appointed for Future Multi-Profession College

In anticipation of the amalgamation of the College of Naturopathic Physicians of BC, College of Chiropractors of BC, College of Massage Therapists of BC, and College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of BC to form one new multi-profession college on June 28, 2024, a CEO has been appointed.

Carin Plischke, currently the Registrar and CEO of the College of Occupational Therapists of BC, has been appointed the CEO of the new multi-profession regulatory college. Carina Herman will continue to oversee the College of Naturopathic Physicians of BC, until amalgamation, as will registrars of the other three colleges. As well, Carin will continue to oversee the College of Occupational Therapists of BC until amalgamation. Effective June 28, 2024, the date the four colleges amalgamate, Carin will assume the full-time role of CEO of the new college.

Role of the New CEO before amalgamation

Before amalgamation, the new CEO role will be focused on establishing the new college's staffing and culture to ensure continuity of regulatory operations following amalgamation, as well as business and budget planning, and building relationships with partners.

Proposed new college name

The Ministry of Health has proposed the following name for the new college: **The College of Complementary Health Professionals of BC**. The deadline for feedback on the name was January 12, 2024. We will share the new college's name once the Ministry has made a final decision.

As a reminder, the College of Naturopathic Physicians of BC, is being directed by the Ministry of Health to amalgamate with the three other colleges. This amalgamation is part of the Ministry of Health's multi-year initiative to modernize BC's health profession regulatory framework. More information is available on the Ministry of Health's [Professional Regulation webpage](#).

We will continue to keep you updated as the amalgamation work progresses, including on our [website](#). If you have questions, please email us at: office@cnpbc.bc.ca



Certification Updates

Botulinum Toxin: Medical/Non-Aesthetic Certification

Registrants must hold CNPBC certification in Botulinum Toxin: Medical/Non-Aesthetic, CNPBC certification in Prescriptive Authority, and current qualification in Naturopathic Advanced Life Support (NALS) prior to injecting botulinum toxin for the following: temporomandibular joint (TMJ) syndrome, headaches, migraines, and hyperhidrosis. Once certified, registrants may only perform these specified aspects of practice.

On January 31st, 2024, the Board reviewed the restriction prohibiting NDs from using medical botulinum outside the above four (4) areas. It was determined that adequately trained and competent registrants holding certification in Botulinum Toxin: Medical/Non-Aesthetic may utilize botulinum toxin for additional medical/non-aesthetic purposes.

As such, registrants are no longer limited to the above four (4) areas when administering botulinum toxin for medical/non-aesthetic purposes. However, **registrants are prohibited from using botulinum toxin in the intra-ocular muscles.** The [Restricted Activities Document](#) has been updated to reflect these changes.

As with all treatments and services, regardless of the area of practice or the health condition, registrants must ensure that they have competence to maintain the standard of care before they engage in this treatment. Some medical/non-aesthetic botulinum toxin treatment areas may be exclusively treated by specialists and registrants are expected to be knowledgeable of where the limits of their training and personal competence lie. They are also expected to meet all their professional obligations under the [Bylaws](#), [Codes of Conduct and Ethics](#), [Professional Standards](#), [Scope of Practice Standards](#) and various [practice standards](#).

Injectable Filler Certification

A naturopathic physician who is duly qualified and licensed by CNPBC may be certified to practice injectable fillers. Certification in Injectable Fillers authorizes a registrant to perform injections for aesthetic purposes. It is prohibited to administer injectable fillers into any area other than those identified at each certification level:

1. **Level 1 areas:** lips, cheeks, chin, marionettes, nasal folds (with cannula only) and jawline.
2. **Level 2 areas:** glabella, forehead, nose (bridge, tip, and nasolabial junction), pyriform, nasal folds (with needle), tear troughs, eyelids, temples, and body.

The College has updated the [Restricted Activities Document](#) to include the use of other injectable products utilized to modify or manage the effects of hyaluronic acid filler, including hyaluronidase. The updates are as follows:

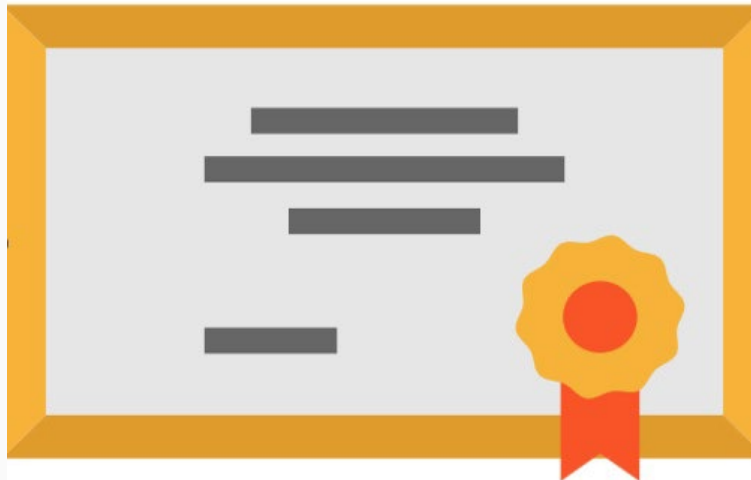
*Certification in level 1 permits registrants to administer hyaluronic acid fillers, **and other injectable products used to modify or manage the effects of hyaluronic acid filler, including hyaluronidase in level 1 areas only.***

and

*Certification in level 2 permits registrant to administer hyaluronic acid fillers, biostimulators, threads and **other injectable products used to modify or manage the effects of injectable fillers, including hyaluronidase in level 1 and 2 areas.***

Additionally, emergency use for hyaluronidase is not restricted to any area when performed by any ND with competence.

Registrants are reminded that injectable fillers used for these procedures must be approved by Health Canada and it is prohibited for any registrant to administer injectable fillers into the genitalia.



CE changes for the 2024/25 Period

The continuing education (CE) requirement exists to ensure that naturopathic physicians continually maintain their competence in all related areas necessary to the practice of naturopathic medicine in British Columbia. This is mandated under the College [bylaws](#) to protect the public by enabling naturopathic physicians to provide their patients with current professional naturopathic healthcare.

In the 2022/23 CE period and prior, CE requirements were set out as follows:

- All registrants must complete a minimum of 40 hours of continuing education over each two-year CE period.

- All registrants must complete a minimum of 5 hours in Category A, 12 hours in Category B, and 3 hours in approved Category G courses.
- Registrants holding College certifications must complete 2 hours in Category E per certification.
- Registrants holding certification in Prescriptive Authority must complete 10 hours in approved Category F courses.
- The remaining hours may be completed through any category.

The category descriptions can be reviewed on the college [website](#).

As the CNPBC mandate is to protect the public, continuing education requirements need to be reflective of this mandate. A review of the Quality Assurance Program was completed by the Board. It was determined that Category A and B requirements are rooted in the promotion of the profession and the support of associations rather than the protection of the public.

As a result, the Board has made a motion to retain the overall 40-hour CE requirement and remove categories A and B, starting with the January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2025 CE period. Courses previously considered category B are now included in Category C.

As such, the current CE requirements are as follows:

- **All registrants must complete a minimum of 40 hours of continuing education over each two-year CE period.**
- **All registrants must complete 3 hours in approved Category G courses.**
- **Registrants holding College certifications must complete 2 hours in Category E per certification.**
- **Registrants holding certification in Prescriptive Authority must complete 10 hours in approved Category F courses.**
- **The remaining hours may be completed through any category.**

Registrants are expected to use their best professional judgment when selecting the continuing education program that will provide them with the most valuable professional growth.

The College's complete Quality Assurance Program can be reviewed [here](#).



Laser Update

Following the [October 2023 Newsletter](#), the College received feedback regarding the limits and conditions on laser. As a result, the effective date of these limits and conditions were extended to March 15th, 2024 while the College reviewed submitted information.

The College has reviewed the limits and conditions, specifically those related to Photodynamic Therapy (PDT), and found that when PDT is performed using a laser, it falls under the restricted activity 'lasers to cut or destroy tissue'. While the mechanism of action of PDT is complex, it was determined that if not for the presence of the laser, the tissue would not be destroyed.

As naturopathic doctors in BC have not been granted the restricted activity 'lasers to cut or destroy tissue' by the Ministry, PDT using laser is not permitted. This review was not to reflect on the efficacy or safety of the practice, but to determine if the laser is used for a purpose not granted to NDs.

PDT using other light sources is not currently restricted. The limits and conditions related to the use of lasers will be effective on March 15th, 2024 and are included in the [Restricted Activities Document](#).

RESTRICTED

Naturopathic Advanced Life Support Registrant Survey

The College is currently reviewing the life support requirements in place for registrants. Naturopathic Advanced Life Support (NALS) is an advanced life support course that was created to address the unique emergency scenarios presented to naturopathic doctors. CNPBC is requesting registrant participation in a brief survey regarding the NALS training.

The survey should take approximately 5 minutes to complete and is anonymous. Please [click here](#) to complete the survey.



New CNPBC Website

CNPBC is happy to announce the launch of its newly designed website. The brand-new website is better organized, easier to navigate, and more user-friendly. The clean and modern design will help the public, registrants, and applicants easily find the information they are seeking.

What's New?

The information on the new website remains the same, but we have restructured it to fit a clean and intuitive design. The main goal was to make information regarding public

protection, standards of practice, certifications, and registration easily accessible.

We've introduced a comprehensive top menu and used collapsible sections throughout the website to allow for quick and efficient navigation.

The new homepage is more visually appealing and includes quick links to direct you to the desired section of the website. It is also designed to keep you up to date with CNPBC announcements through the news and newsletter sections.

In addition to the design changes, we have added sections on the processing of requests and applications where needed. These will help set timeline expectations and allow registrants and applicants to plan accordingly.

What's next?

CNPBC will continue to develop and improve its website. We invite you to explore the [new design](#) and we welcome any suggestions at office@cnpbc.bc.ca



We acknowledge with respect that the land on which we gather is the unceded and traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples - skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), selílwitlh (Tseil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəyám (Musqueam) nations whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.



Copyright © 2024 College of Naturopathic Physicians of British Columbia, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

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

You are receiving this email because you are either a registrant of CNPBC or you signed up to receive emails from us. CNPBC is legally required to deliver notices about naturopathic practice and professional regulation to its registrants. If you are a retired naturopathic doctor or if you are not a registrant and no longer wish to receive emails from us, you may [unsubscribe from this list](#).