



COLLEGE OF
NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Re: Notice to the Profession: Moratorium on use of IV Turmeric/Curcumin

Effective May 1, 2017 there is a moratorium on the initiation of any new patients to intravenous (IV) turmeric/curcumin. **Naturopathic physicians registered with the College of Naturopathic Physician of British Columbia (the “College”) may not prescribe or administer this substance to any patient, subject to the exception outlined below.**

The Board of the College has initiated this measure due to reports concerning the death of a 30-year-old California woman in March 2017, as well as due to reports of adverse reactions occurring from certain IV turmeric/curcumin products sourced from Canadian compounding pharmacies.

Exception: There is an exception to this moratorium as follows: **The moratorium does not apply to patients who have previously received IV turmeric/curcumin;**

This moratorium is a temporary measure until the College can undertake further study to ascertain the safety and efficacy of, sourcing of and methodology for the IV administration of turmeric/curcumin. The Board will review the moratorium once the requisite study has been completed. Board representatives will also be seeking input from registrants who have used this treatment approach. The College will issue safety guidelines if and when the moratorium is lifted.

In the interim, registrants continuing treatment with patients already receiving such treatment should be guided by the following guidelines:

- a. Have an appropriate emergency kit ready;
- b. Review emergency protocols regarding anaphylaxis prior to starting treatment;
- c. Appropriately chart form, dosage, and rate of administrative carrier solution; and
- d. Not add any additional additives to the IV bag.

Registrants who are interested in providing input to the College regarding IV turmeric/curcumin can contact Sarah Pivnick at the College office.

Thank you for your attention to this important message concerning patient safety.