



Naturopathic Medicine: Clinical Practice Standards & Certifications

HPOA Webinar Series

Certifications

FAQ

Q: Why is the College discontinuing most certifications?

The regulatory modernization introduced by the [Health Professions and Occupations Act \(HPOA\)](#) brings changes to the regulation of health professions, including a shift away from the use of multiple, individual certifications of practice as the primary mechanism of authorization for certain professional activities that fall within health professionals' Scope of Practice. This reflects a shift to a modernized, outcomes based, right-touch approach to regulation that prioritizes public protection through licensee accountability to maintain professional competence in the areas of practice in which the licensees' deliver care.

Q: If I am not currently certified in an area of practice that once required certification, what training must I take?

The College does not prescribe specific courses and/or training pathways for these activities. Licensees are responsible for applying the appropriate knowledge, skills, and clinical judgement to provide their patients with competent and safe care. This includes licensees undertaking additional training before integrating techniques and/or approaches that may extend beyond entry-level practice into patient care.

The [Professional Standard: Scope of Practice](#) defines "additional training" as:

additional training: *structured education with an objective assessment of knowledge and skills beyond entry-level competency that includes both theoretical and practical components including:*



- *theory and principles of the technique and/or approach*
- *assessment and diagnosis*
- *treatment*
- *proper handling, including storage and preparation, of substances when applicable risk, and management as applicable.*

Licensees must review the [Guidance Additional Training for Previously Certified Practice Areas: Naturopathic Medicine](#) for information on what is required for additional training in previously certified areas.

Q: I currently hold a certification. Now that certifications for areas of practice have been discontinued, can I continue to practise that activity after April 1st?

Yes. Following April 1, 2026, the expiry of discontinued certifications **will not** affect your ability to continue practising within those areas, provided the activities fall within the naturopathic medicine Scope of Practice, and the licensee meets all applicable Professional and Clinical Practice Standards.

Q: Does the discontinuation of certifications mean that there are specific areas of practice that are no longer in Scope?

No, previously certified areas of practice **remain** in scope. Effective April 1, 2026, the activities that were previously authorized through the listed certifications will no longer require a separate College-issued certification. These activities are not newly introduced, and do not represent an expansion of the naturopathic medicine scope of practice. Rather, this change reflects a shift in how these areas of practice are authorized under the HPOA regulations.

Licensees can refer to the [Scope of Practice Explanatory Statement Naturopathic Medicine](#) to review limits and conditions and out of Scope activities.

Q: Do the new regulations still uphold the distinction between Injectable Fillers Level I and Level II?

No. With the discontinuation of certification, there is **no longer a distinction** between the two levels for injectable fillers.

Licensees can refer to the [Guidance: Additional Training for Previously Certified Practice Areas](#) for more information on injectable fillers.



Q: Do I need to renew NALS to be able to continue to practice previously certified practices?

Licensees who provide any practices involving previously certified practices *must*:

- Possess a current certification in advanced life support.

Licensees must review the [Guidance Additional Training for Previously Certified Practice Areas: Naturopathic Medicine](#) for information on what is required for additional training in previously certified areas.

Q: Are Continuing Education (CE) credits still required in certification areas?

Licensees **no longer** need to complete and report CE credits, including CE credits for previously certified areas of practice.

Q: How do I document evidence of my additional training?

Licensees are encouraged to maintain clear documentation as evidence of their education and training. Supporting documentation must provide accurate and complete information related to the specific additional training taken.

In the event of a concern and/or complaint, licensees may be required to submit documentation related to additional training.