

The Responsive Regulator:
Adapting Scopes to Public Need

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Outline


- History of RN Prescribing
- Purpose of RN Prescribing
- Scope of Practice
- Regulatory Framework
- Evaluation
- What's the Difference?
- Stakeholders



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History

"Study the past,
if you would divine the future"
-Confucius



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History - Way, way back...


- CDN RNs were carrying medications with them on home visits* (1930s)
- Why?
 - Competent assessments
 - Rural or urgent situations
 - Lack of efficient services

(*McPherson, K. (2009). *Bedside matters: The transformation of Canadian nursing, 1900-1990*. Toronto, ON: University of Toronto Press.)

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History - More recently...

- England
 - 1992 - first legislation. Narrow list of drugs by protocol
 - 2006 - any drug for any condition within individual scope of competence including some controlled drugs
 - 2009 - narcotic and controlled drugs



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History - More recently...

- Ireland
 - 1998 - recommendations made in national report
 - 2006 - legislation introduced
 - 2007 - legislation proclaimed




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Purpose of RN Prescribing

So what?

- Support full utilization of health care providers by recognizing scope of practice
- To address areas determined as having an unmet need
- Increase access and capacity



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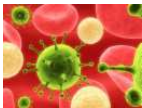
Scope of Practice: Who?

- Focus on RN practice in two areas:
 - Public Health
 - Primary Care
- A continuation of work they are doing but with enhanced authority

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Scope of Practice: What?

- Practice focused on:
 - 1) Sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBI) and




Reproductive health
Health promotion and prevention

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Scope of Practice: What?

2) Travel health

- Travel Health Nursing is the specialty nursing practice that provides for and delivers health care services to the travelling public, using knowledge from nursing, social and public health sciences (ATHNA).
- Health promotion and disease prevention



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Scope of Practice: What?

- Currently manage clients with STBBIs/Reproductive health and Travel health needs:
 - Assessment: Ordering and receiving reports of diagnostics
 - Analysis: Diagnosis
 - Plan of care: interventions such as prescribing
 - Evaluation and modification: Consulting and referring

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Scope of Practice: What?





Legislation will require the inclusion of:


- Order/Receiving Diagnostic & Screening Tests
- Diagnosis
- Prescribing/Dispensing

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Scope of Practice: Where?

Urban 


Remote 

 Rural

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Scope of Practice: When?

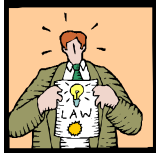
Regulated Health Professions Act - Proclamation 2014



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Regulatory Framework - Outline

- Competencies
- Standards of Practice
- Education
- Registration
- Audit



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Regulatory Framework: Competencies

- Competencies for RN Prescribers:
 - Describe the integrated knowledge, skills, judgment and attributes that guide registered nurse prescribers.
 - Serve as a guide for curriculum development for course(s) of instruction.

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Regulatory Framework: Competencies

Competencies cont'd:

- Inform the public and employer of the knowledge, skills, judgment and attributes necessary in order to meet practice expectations of registered nurse prescribers.



- [G:\Practice & Standards\Certified Prescriber\RN\(CP\) Competencies Final June 2011.pdf](#)

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Regulatory Framework: Competencies

- 1) Assessment and Diagnosis of Client Health/Illness Status
- 2) Pharmacotherapeutics and other Therapeutic Interventions in Client Care Management
- 3) Professional Responsibilities and Accountabilities

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Regulatory Framework: Standards of Practice

- Describe the expectations the public can have of an RN prescriber
- A benchmark used to measure RN prescriber practice



- [G:\Practice & Standards\Certified Prescriber\Standards of Practice for RN \(CP\) Blue Banner.pdf](#)

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Regulatory Framework: Standards

- Standards of Practice for RN Prescribers
 - Standard I: Specific Knowledge, Skill and Judgment
 - Standard II: Consultation and Collaboration
 - Standard III: Prescribing Drugs
 - Standard IV: Responsibility and Accountability

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Regulatory Framework: Standards

- Standard I: Specific Knowledge, Skill and Judgment
 - Focuses on:
 - Thorough history and physical
 - Ordering appropriate diagnostics
 - Critical thinking/analysis of situation
 - Client centered plan of care
 - Evidence-informed practice

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Regulatory Framework: Standards

- Standard II: Consultation and Collaboration
 - Focuses on:
 - Role of RN prescriber
 - Collaborative relationships
 - Consultation

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Regulatory Framework: Standards

- Standard III: Prescribing Drugs
 - Focuses on:
 - Accurate completion of prescription
 - Ethical prescribing practice:
 - Education and follow-up



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Regulatory Framework: Standards

- Standard IV: Responsibility and Accountability
 - Focuses on:
 - Responsible and appropriate prescribing practices
 - Documentation
 - Prescribing within scope of practice

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Regulatory Framework: Education


- Education
 - Completion of education program via modules
 - Not courses but online modules: to improve accessibility
 - Foundation modules:
 - Ethical Professional Practice
 - Prescribing

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Regulatory Framework: Education

- Streams:
 - 1) STBBI/Reproductive Health
 - 2) Travel Health
- Do not have to complete both
- Will depend on practice setting



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Regulatory Framework: Registration


- New designation versus notation?
- Referral from employer
- Notation on online register (Nurse Check) that may prescribe in area(s) of:
 - STBBI/Reproductive health or
 - Travel health

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Regulatory Framework: Registration


- Information accessible to the public and stakeholders (e.g. pharmacists, employers)



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Regulatory Framework: Audit


- Practice audits
- Drug Programs Information Network (DPIN)



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Evaluation of RN Prescribers


- Evaluation plan
 - Process evaluation - referral mechanism to education; registration process
 - Outcome evaluation - audits, stakeholder feedback, RN prescriber feedback
 - Stats on numbers of RN prescribers, sites/practice settings



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What's the Difference?

-between a nurse practitioner and a nurse prescriber?



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What's the Difference?

| RN Prescribers | Nurse Practitioners |
|---|---|
| RN - with notation on register | Nurse practitioners - RN(EP) or RN, NP |
| Prescriber role of the RN has a more specific scope of practice/target population; applies to those areas identified as having an unmet need. | Practice in a wide variety of settings and possess a broader scope of practice. |
| Letter of support from employer/driven by client needs | Education driven by individual |
| Prescriptive authority for clearly defined health and wellness concerns/diagnoses. | Prescriptive authority for NPs currently expanding; broad range of diagnoses. |

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Stakeholders

- Canadian Oxford Dictionary (“runaway bestseller” in 1998) defines stakeholder as:
 - person with an interest or concern in something...



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Stakeholders

- Government
- RNs
- Other health care providers -
 - Pharmacists
 - Physicians
- Educators
- Employers
- Health authorities

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Employer Supports

- Webpage - for RN prescribers.
 - Resources
 - Legislation
 - Updates etc.
- Practice Directions
- Consultation with employers continues...



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Q & Eh?



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