



Board Policy

Registered Nurse (Nurse Practitioner) Prescribing Controlled Drugs and Substances

The extended practice regulation in Manitoba provides Registered Nurse (Nurse Practitioner (RN(NP))) the authority to prescribe controlled drugs and substances. The New Classes of Practitioners Regulations (NCPR) authorizes nurse practitioners to prescribe, administer and provide controlled substances.

Methadone is a controlled drug with additional Federal Government's Narcotic Control Regulations. In subsection 53(3) of this regulation, RN(NP)s must obtain an exemption to section 56 under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) in order to prescribe methadone.

Buprenorphine, when prescribed for treatment of opioid dependence requires additional authorization from the College before filling RN(NP) buprenorphine prescriptions for opioid dependence treatment.

Purpose:

To specify the requirements required to prescribe controlled drugs and substances.

Policy:

Requirements for RN(NP)s to prescribe controlled drugs and substances, (not including buprenorphine for opioid dependence or methadone for either analgesia or opioid dependence):

- 1) RN(NP)s who have completed education which does not include current competencies for prescribing controlled drugs and narcotics are required to submit a certificate of successful completion of a course of instruction approved by the Board of Directors (i.e. prescribing narcotics and controlled substances course, primary health care nurse practitioner program, School of Nursing University of Ottawa).
- 2) RN(NP)s who have not submitted a certificate of successful completion of a course of instruction will have a condition placed on their certificate of practice prohibiting them from prescribing controlled substances.
- 3) To have the condition removed RN(NP)s must submit proof of successful completion of a course of instruction on prescribing narcotics and controlled substances approved by the Board.

Requirements for RN(NP)s to prescribe buprenorphine for opioid dependence:

- 4) RN(NP)s must maintain prescribing authority for controlled drugs and substances.

- 5) RN(NP)s must submit a certificate of successful completion of a course of instruction in the competencies necessary for prescribing buprenorphine (e.g. Suboxone® Education, www.suboxonecme.ca)

Requirements for RN(NP)s to prescribe methadone:

- 6) RN(NP)s must maintain prescribing authority for controlled drugs and substances.
- 7) RN(NP)s must receive college notification of a federal government (Office of Controlled Substances) exemption to section 56 under the CDSA for the specified purpose and time period.
- 8) Before this exemption period expires, RN(NP)s must submit a renewal application specifying education and practice completed to maintain methadone prescribing competency, then receive subsequent notification from the college of a federal government (Office of Controlled Substances) exemption to section 56 under the CDSA for the specified purpose and subsequent time period.