



Registered Nurse (RN) Authorization to Treat Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis

The purpose of this document is to provide information about authorization for medication administration to treat chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis.

The *Regulated Health Professions Act* (RHPA) section 5(1)(d) permits the *Public Health Act* to authorize a reserved act such as the administration of medication.

The *Public Health Act* section 44 states a medical officer of health can order a health professional “to comply with a protocol or guideline approved by the chief public health officer for controlling communicable disease.”

On May 31, 2023, the Manitoba Chief Provincial Public Health Officer issued an order to both

- PHNs who are designated by the *Public Health Personnel Regulations*, and
- Communicable disease nurses, defined as a nurse
 - who is registered and authorized to practice in Manitoba as a RN, registered psychiatric nurse or a licensed practice nurse, and
 - currently providing communicable disease response services on behalf of a health authority as defined in *The Health System Governance and Accountability Act*, the Government of Manitoba, the Government of Canada, an Indian Band or an entity funded by a health authority, the Government of Manitoba, the Government of Canada or an Indian Band to provide the services.

This is a time-limited order until May 31, 2024 for RNs and communicable disease nurses to comply with the most current Communicable Disease Management Protocols for:

- Chlamydia trachomatis (D through K serovars)
- Gonorrhea
- Syphilis

This order functions as an authorization mechanism for RN administration of medications to treat these infections. Please refer to the current versions of these protocols for specific information.

It is expected that RNs will continue to practice in accordance with all practice directions including the Practice Direction: *Practice Expectations for RNs*.

If you have questions, please contact:

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References

CRNM (2018). Practice Direction: Practice Expectations for RNs. www.crnmb.ca.

Government of Manitoba (2006). *The Public Health Act* C.C.S.M. c. P210.
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/act.html>.

Government of Manitoba (2009). *The Regulated Health Professions Act* S.M. 2009, c. 15.
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/rhpa/>.

Government of Manitoba (2009). Public Health Personnel Regulation.
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/act.html>.