

PharmaNet Bulletin

PLEASE INSERT IN YOUR PHARMACARE/PHARMA NET POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

BC Nurse Practitioners to be Licensed to Prescribe

On August 19, 2005, the Registered Nurses Association of BC became the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC).

Nurse practitioners (NPs) registered with the CRNBC after September 28, 2005, will be authorized to prescribe:

- all drugs listed in Schedule II of the Drug Schedules Regulation of BC, and
- specific Schedule I drugs.

Once an NP is registered with the CRNBC, their information is transmitted to PharmaNet and pharmacists may then submit claims bearing a 5-digit CRNBC licence number.

Detailed information on the drugs nurse practitioners may prescribe, and the limits and conditions for prescribing, are set out in the CRNBC Scope of Practice document for each type of nurse practitioner: Family, Adult or Pediatric.

Family Practice NPs will be the first to be registered, followed in early 2006 by Adult Practice and Pediatric Practice NPs. The Scope of Practice document for Family Practice is available in the Nursing Practice section of the CRNBC Web site at www.crnbc.ca/downloads/424_NP_Standards_Limits_Conditions.pdf.

Please note that the CRNBC and individual NPs are responsible for ensuring appropriate prescribing within their scope of practice.

Submitting prescription claims for NPs

When submitting PharmaNet claims for medications prescribed by NPs, please ensure that each transaction includes the Practitioner ID Reference Code 96 and the NP's **CRNBC 5-digit licence number**.

Enquiries about prescribing by NPs

For more information on prescribing by NPs, please contact the CRNBC:

- From Vancouver, call 604-736-7331;
- From elsewhere in BC, call toll-free 1-800-565-6505; or
- E-mail info@crnbc.ca.