



# COLLEGE OF NURSES OF ONTARIO'S Employer Reference Group

## **CNO News to Use** September 2023

### **Regulatory changes**

#### **'As of Right' and Labour Mobility**

The Ontario government has approved legislative amendments to enable interjurisdictional mobility for select registered health professionals related to Bill 60, *Your Health Act, 2023*. Under Bill 60, nurses registered in an equivalent category in other Canadian jurisdictions can temporarily practice in Ontario, while completing their registration with CNO.

To enhance labour mobility and streamline the registration for nurses registered in other provinces or territories, CNO has [implemented new options](#) to reduce registration barriers for applicants. These changes enable eligible labour mobility applicants to demonstrate their registration requirements, including evidence of recent practice and verification of registration, within a matter of days.

Please continue to monitor our [website](#) for updates.

#### **RN Prescribing**

The Ontario government is making changes to Ontario law (the *Nursing Act, 1991*) that will permit registered nurses to prescribe certain medications and communicate diagnoses for the purposes of prescribing. RNs do not have the authority to perform either of these activities until government approves CNO's proposed regulations. The regulation also includes changes in accountabilities for all nurses (RPNs, RNs, NPs) to dispense medication or administer a substance by injection or inhalation.

The regulations require that RNs successfully complete CNO Council-approved education to become authorized to prescribe. The competencies for prescribing build on the entry-level competencies for RNs. The regulations will permit RNs to prescribe the following medications: immunization, contraception, smoking cessation medications, travel health (prevention) medications, wound care (topical) medications, and over-the-counter medications.

CNO is developing a new practice standard and other resources to support safe practice and align with the regulatory changes. A comprehensive communication and stakeholder

engagement plan has been developed and we encourage you to continue to monitor our website for [updates](#).

## Standards modernization update

### Scope of Practice Standard

On July 1, 2023, the [Scope of Practice](#) standard took effect. This standard outlines nurse's legislative accountabilities and other key requirements nurses must consider when deciding whether to perform an activity for safe client care.

To support the integration of the standard into practice, the [Scope of Practice Webcast](#) is available on our website, in addition to our [Ask Practice Understanding Scope of Practice and Your Nursing Accountabilities](#).

## Practice resource updates

### Providing Virtual Care

As our health care system continues to evolve, technology is being used to provide care, conduct consultations, and deliver information. Our [Telepractice](#) fact sheet and [Ask Practice Providing Virtual Care](#) provides guidance on nursing accountabilities in this context including information regarding registration requirement for cross-jurisdictional practice related to virtual care and education.

### Code of Conduct Resources

To support the integration of the revised [Code of Conduct](#), a recording of the [Code of Conduct webinar](#) is also available on our website. This session includes an overview of the Code's evolution, key features of the modernized Code, a review of how the Code applies to practice and relevant resources to support its application.

Additional resources include:

- [Code of Conduct FAQs](#)
- [Code of Conduct: Principle 2 Learning Modules](#). This series of learning modules focuses on the three core behaviours of this principle
- [Culturally Safe Care Resources](#)

### Leadership in Nursing Practice Resource

All nurses, regardless of their role or title, are leaders. Our new [Ask Practice Leadership in Nursing Practice](#) outlines how nurses may demonstrate leadership in a variety of ways, including advocating for clients, promoting quality practice and by building and sharing knowledge.

## Entry-to-Practice update

### Jurisprudence Exam Update

As of July 17, all applicants seeking registration for the General, Special Assignment, Temporary, Reinstatement or Extended class are required to pass a [new Jurisprudence Exam](#). The Jurisprudence Exam assesses applicants' knowledge of their professional, legal and ethical accountabilities to ensure they are able to provide safe and competent nursing care in Ontario.

The new exam format features an interactive “open book” e-learning module and a 50-question multiple-choice exam. The exam format means applicants may use other online or offline resources (e.g., laws, regulations, CNO’s practice standards) to support their answers during testing. The new exam is available online and can be completed virtually in English or French through a secure website.

### Questions?

If you have any questions about this issue of CNO News to Use or nursing practice, please contact CNO’s Practice Quality team by completing [an online form](#). CNO’s Practice Quality team also supports employers with collaborative presentations about the Standards of Practice and applying them to your specific practice setting and requests can be made through the [online form](#).