

January 6, 2016

Dear Nurse Practitioner,

On January 5, 2016, the BC Ministry of Health announced significant changes to PharmaNet which will have a positive impact on how NPs practice in British Columbia.

Beginning immediately, those of you who practice in the community can request access under the Community Practice Access to PharmaNet service. For those of you who currently access PharmaNet from within Health Authority systems, changes are coming very soon which will enable you to request medication dispensing histories in PharmaNet directly, rather than under the supervision and authority of physicians.

These changes to PharmaNet will have a positive and lasting impact on nurse practitioners in British Columbia, and are a significant step forward toward better integration of the NP role in our healthcare system. This development also represents the removal of one of the last barriers to prescription of controlled drugs and narcotics by nurse practitioners in British Columbia.

The Association of Registered Nurses and the BC Nurse Practitioner Association look forward to further progress in NP integration in the coming weeks and months and will continue to work together to advocate for the changes needed to advance the role of all nurse practitioners in British Columbia.

Nurse practitioners should continue to monitor updates from CRNBC about their prescribing authority in the coming weeks and watch our websites for further information (www.arnbc.ca; www.bcnpa.org). We look forward to hearing from you if you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,



Zak Matieschyn, BSN, MN, RN, NP(Family)
ARNBC President



Kathleen Fyvie, BSN, MN, RN, NP(Family)
BCNPA President

Links:

[Letter from the BC Ministry of Health Announcing PharmaNet changes](#)
[Forms and information about the registration process](#)