

GUIDE

PLAR Document of Education and Experience (DEE)





Table of Contents

General Information
Documents needed to complete the DEE
Filling out the DEE form
Section 1 Contact Information
Section 2 - Overview of Education
Section 3 – Content Areas
Section 4 – General Medical Subjects
Section 5 – Mapping Sources of Education
Section 6 – Formal Field Placement / Clinical Placement
Section 7 – Professional Practice / Employment
Next Steps
Submitting the DEE and supporting documents
Paying the Paper-Based Assessment Fee
<u>Timelines for Review & Decision</u>
Appendix A: Self-Assessment Checklist
Appendix B: Detailed Descriptions of Content Areas
Content Area 1: Body Systems and their Interactions
Content Area 2: Patient Assessment
Content Area 3: Patient Assessment
Content Area 4: Prognosis & Management
General Medical Subjects



GENERAL INFORMATION

This guide has been prepared to assist you in completing the Document of Education and Experience (DEE), as part of Stage 1 of the College of Naturopaths of Ontario (the College) Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR) program. For additional information about the PLAR Program, including eligibility requirements and appealing a Stage 1 decision, please refer to the PLAR Applicant Handbook.

PLAR applicants who require further clarification on matters related to completing the DEE, which have not been addressed in this guide, are asked to contact the Entry-to-Practise team at applications@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca or by phone at 416-583-5997.

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: The DEE form is available upon request from the Entry-to-Practise team and will be emailed to all PLAR applicants deemed eligible for the PLAR program, (i.e., those who have the required language proficiency, minimum education, and who have confirmed their identity with the College). Please do not start the DEE process until you are eligible to do so.

What is the DEE?

The DEE form is a self-report designed to help the College evaluate your file. The DEE form identifies content areas that are covered in naturopathy programs accredited by the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME). These content areas match the Core Competencies set by the College and are assessed in the Written Exam I (Biomedical) and Written Exam II (Clinical Sciences).

Through the DEE process, you will map all your past education, training, and work experience relevant to the profession against the content areas. We strongly recommend that all applicants read through this information prior to making a DEE submission. Applicants are asked to submit transcripts, syllabi and/or course descriptions for any declared formal education within this document and any other supporting documentation to illustrate education or experience for those applicable content areas. A trained PLAR Assessor will then use the same Excel file you have completed to record their findings in the designated spreadsheet. The PLAR Assessor's role is to assess whether your overall education and experience are sufficiently equivalent to the education and experience of a CNME-accredited program graduate. Remember, these assessments are based on what is submitted by you.

Once the assessment is completed, the PLAR Assessor will submit their recommendations to the College. The College will convene a meeting of the PLAR Committee where all Committee members will review your file and the assessor's recommendations, and make their decision related to this stage (Stage 1) of your evaluation. This decision will determine your eligibility to move onto Stage 2 (Written Exam #1).

Should you proceed with the DEE?

The DEE form is a detailed document that will require time and effort to complete. You will be expected to:

- Collect documents from your past education and professional experience, including, but not limited
 to, letters detailing work experience or clinical placements, and original or certified copies of
 academic transcripts.
- Have all your documents translated by a certified translator (if your documents are in a language other than English or French).
- Map your education and clinic experience against the content area requirements topic by topic.
- Fill out several tabs on the Excel form in detail.

The DEE is the first of five stages in the PLAR process, which requires an investment both in terms of time and money. For that reason, we strongly suggest you review the <u>PLAR Handbook</u> and the <u>DEE guide</u>. Detailed information about the requirements, fees and competencies PLAR applicants are assessed on is also available in following documents:

 Appendix B on page 20 of the DEE guide provides fulsome information about the competencies and competency areas including number of clinic hours.



Appendix A on page 17 of the DEE guide includes a useful self-assessment checklist to allow you to determine whether or not, through your education and experience, you have the competencies needed to be successful in the PLAR Program, keeping in mind that this is a multi-stage assessment process, and not a training or bridging program.

If you find that you lack relevant education and/or hands-on experience in several of the mandatory content areas, or if you feel you could not pass an exam that tests you on the theoretical and clinical knowledge in these areas, you may wish to reconsider going forward with completing the DEE.

DOCUMENTS YOU NEED BEFORE COMPLETING THE DEE

will need to have the following documents with you to fill out the DEE form. It is up to you to get these documents as described below.

- 1) Your Academic Record/Transcripts/Mark sheets/Records A complete list of all the courses and/or training you took in naturopathy or related areas, including course titles, course codes (if available), course hours (if available), and your marks/grades for each subject (course) you completed. You will be required to submit these documents to the College either as originals directly from the educational institutions or copies that are notarized by a notary public.
- 2) Your Curriculum Detailed description of course content for each of the courses listed on your transcript. These course descriptions must be taken from a formal and approved source such as:
 - a photocopy of courses from the University and/or Post-secondary Course Calendar;
 - a printout of course descriptions, also called course outlines, from the website with a clear indication of the course titles and course code indicating the URL (web-address), matching the course titles and codes on your transcript; and/or
 - a formal document of course descriptions produced by your University/College/Post-secondary educational institution for the years you attended.

Remember: You must submit relevant course outlines. This means you must make sure that the course descriptions you submit for consideration relate to the courses at the time you were enrolled in the program. For example, you can submit a course outline published for the academic years 2015-2018 only if you were enrolled in and completed the program in those years.

If you completed your education outside the years of the course outlines, you must obtain an official letter from the program stating that the provided course outlines apply to the years that you completed the courses.

- If your academic program(s) used a problem-based learning system, you must provide us with a copy of your case books or list of cases. If these are not available to you, the College will offer you guidance on providing alternative proof for the content of your learning (e.g., a letter from your educational institute with a checklist of topics that were covered, and the number of hours dedicated to the content areas/medical subjects).
- A copy of your course descriptions/curriculum (in English or French) or the original translated into English or French. Courses must be organized in chronological order and the pages clearly numbered (remember that College staff and the PLAR assessor will need to cross-reference your supporting documents against the DEE form).
- If your course descriptions are not in English or French, a certified translator must attach a copy of the document in the original language to the translation. In many cases, the translation of course content is done by translators who are not familiar with professional terminology. This may result in an incorrect or misleading translated version. When having your original documents translated, ask for a copy of the translation for your reference. Review the translation and make $_{\it A}$



sure they correctly reflect your curriculum. We have included synonyms and course descriptions (**Appendix B on page 20**) in this guide to help you find the correct terminology. If you find translation mistakes, make a note on the DEE, and add the correct terminology.

If you do not have a course description/curriculum, make a note in the DEE table (in the Comments column) and provide your own written description.

- 3) Your clinical/field placement You must provide information about and documentation of your clinical/field placement during your formal education, whether you completed a naturopathic medicine program or another formal and relevant education. You must include information about areas of practice, practice settings, hours of supervised or unsupervised practice, details of the placement(s), and client groups and other hours. Supporting letters from clinical or field placement supervisors may be submitted to substantiate this information.
- 4) Your work experience You must provide information about any relevant work experience you have gained after completion of your education, only if you are using your work experience as supporting evidence for your education. In that case, you must include information about areas of practice, practice settings, hours of practice, details of the work, client groups and other hours. If you are using your work experience as supporting evidence for your education, you must provide any available supporting documents for the section on relevant employment (e.g., letter from employer, appointment booking calendar etc.).

Note: Evidence, of interactions with either live or simulated patients, as supported with copies of syllabi, course descriptions, and/or documentation related to supervised/clinical practise or field placements must be provided for several content areas. See **Appendix B on page 20** for content areas.

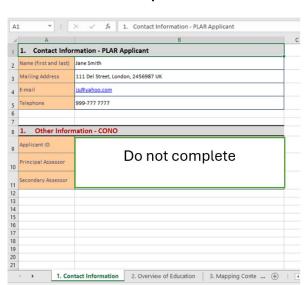
FILLING OUT THE DEE FORM

The DEE form is a fillable Excel spreadsheet. It contains several tabs (see some of the tabs at the bottom of the example below). You must fill out information on all tabs (1-7).

Section 1 – Contact Information

Start the process by filling out all the information requested, in the "1. Contact Information" tab. Input your information in column B, rows 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Do not record any information in the "1. Other Information" section of this spreadsheet. We will fill in the information after we have assigned you with an Identification number (ID) and after a PLAR Assessor has been assigned to your file.



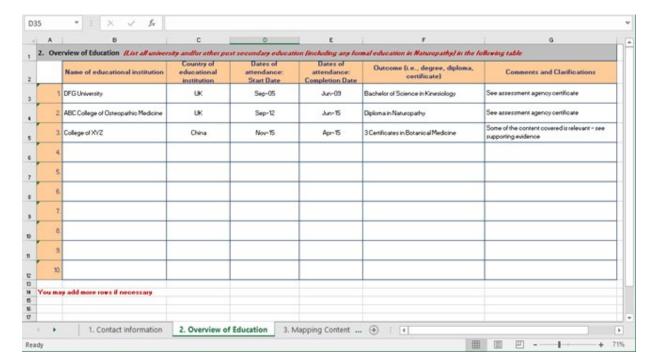
Section 1 - Example: Contact Information



Section 2 – Overview of Education

Fill out all the requested information in the "2. Overview of Education" tab. Input your information in columns B-F. Use column G (Comments and Clarifications) to add any explanations, as necessary.

Note: the information provided in the Example, Overview of Education, is only a sample. This is to provide you with the type of information we need to see in the completed DEE form. The names of institutions, course titles, and credentials indicated in the example are not real. The syllabus you provide must match the dates of course completion noted on Tab 2. Full course syllabi from the years you completed your education needs to be included to demonstrate the course curriculum for each course cited in your DEE. If you are unable to obtain a syllabus from the year you completed your training, we would accept a syllabus from a different year, provided it's accompanied with a letter from the educational institution(s) as evidence that the program's curriculum/syllabi has not changed in the time since you completed the program. These letters should be e-mailed to us directly at applications@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca.



Section 2 - Example: Overview of Education

Section 3 - Content Areas

In this section, we ask you to identify the courses, training, and/or experience that you have completed as related to the required content areas. This will help us assess how similar the content of your education and experience is to the required academic and clinical content. We recommend that you use Appendix B (Detailed Description of Content Areas) as a reference document to help you better understand the meaning of each of the content areas.

Fill out all the requested information in the "3. Mapping Content Areas" tab as follows:

- Input your information in columns B-G and K by entering "X".
- Enter all other information in columns H-J.
- Use column L (Comments and Clarifications) to add any explanations as needed.

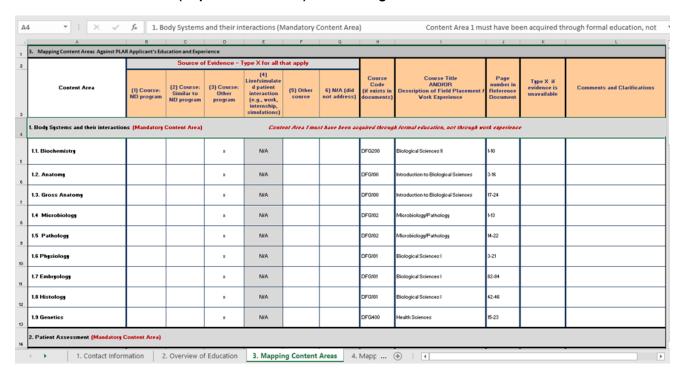
Please see Appendix B on page 20 for detailed descriptions of each content areas.

Note: the number of hours per content area listed in Appendix B is a recommended benchmark based on educational requirements in Ontario. Though these are not "hard numbers" you must meet, significant deviation from these benchmarks will be noted by the assessor as a deficiency.



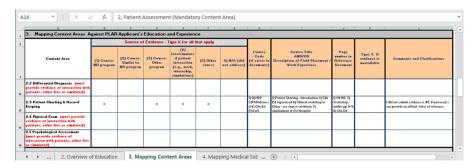
Following, you will find a few examples of a filled form.

Section 3 – Mapping Content Areas Example 1: When courses (or parts of courses) are well aligned with content areas



We have included several options to allow you to demonstrate how you met a required content area. For each content area, select one or more of the options noted. For example, tell us if that content area was covered during your formal naturopathic education, during a program similar to naturopathy, during another education program such as a Doctor of Medicine program, as part of your field placement/clinical training, or during your work experience. You can select more than one option if applicable.

Section 3 – Mapping Content Areas Example 2: When a single content area was addressed through multiple courses/activities



One listed content area may have been covered by more than one course. If you completed several courses that included one listed content area, make sure to provide the list of all courses that you feel covered that content area. For example, let us assume that you completed two courses related to Anatomy. You would then record both courses for the anatomy content area, including the titles of the courses and the course codes if available.

Some of your courses, training and/or experience may have covered more than one listed content area. In these instances, you may list each of your courses/training/experience more than once (i.e., you can match the same course to several content areas).

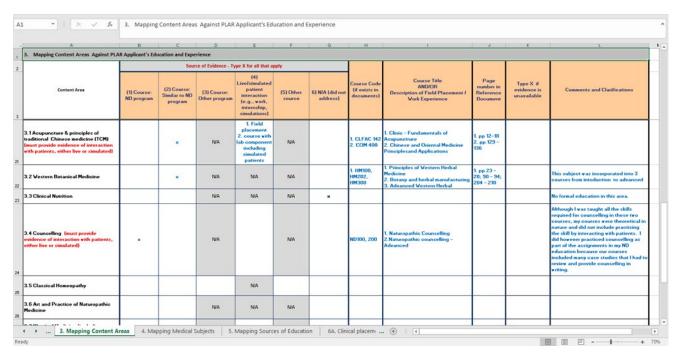
Important: Course names and training titles vary from country to country, therefore the areas we have listed



in this tab describe course/training content, not course titles. Focus on what you have learned in your courses, not the specific words used in the titles.

When filling out the spreadsheet, we ask that you make every effort to identify content from every available source, such as your education, training and work experience.

Section 3 – Mapping Content Areas Example 3: When content areas require ND or similar education or When a content area requires interaction with patients



We have provided fewer options for some of the required content areas (section 3 - Treatment and section 4 – Prognosis), having determined that education related to some of these content areas must have been acquired through an ND program or similar education with a holistic approach to evaluation and treatment. In the example above, you will notice that for content areas 3.2, 3.3, and 3.6, the "Other options" (columns D, E and F) are greyed out and N/A is recorded in advance. This means you cannot select these options for this content area to meet the requirement.

If you have not studied/experienced a content area, enter N/A in columns G [N/A (did not address)]. Do not fill in other columns except for Column L if you need to provide an explanation. See content area 3.3 (Clinical Nutrition) in the above example. If you have studied/experienced a content area by completing more than one course, enter all the relevant information. See content areas 3.1 and 3.2 in the above example.

In some content areas, we have determined that to meet these requirements, you must provide evidence of interaction with either live or simulated patients. See content areas 3.1 and 3.4 in the above example. As noted on the DEE Form tab "3. Mapping Content Areas", applicants must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated, for several content areas. Assessors will be looking at supporting documentation in the asterisked competency areas for evidence (either within your educational program or outside e.g., in a field placement). Without this evidence, a gap in education/experience will be noted. The greater the number of competency gaps, the greater the likelihood of your education/experience being deemed insufficient, and you not being eligible to proceed to the next stage of the PLAR program. Note that in the above example, the applicant indicated that while they had interacted with patients as part of their field placement and had completed a course with a lab component for content area 3.1 (Acupuncture and principles of traditional Chinese medicine), the courses they completed for 3.4 (Naturopathic Counselling) did not include any live or simulated patient interactions.

Look at the sample of information recorded in Row 24, Column L "Comments and Clarifications" section of



example 3 in section 3. Here, the applicant noted that they practiced counselling using case studies incorporated in the courses. This type of information is critical when the assessor is reviewing your application.

This will allow the assessor to ask further questions and/or to clarify information before making a decision.

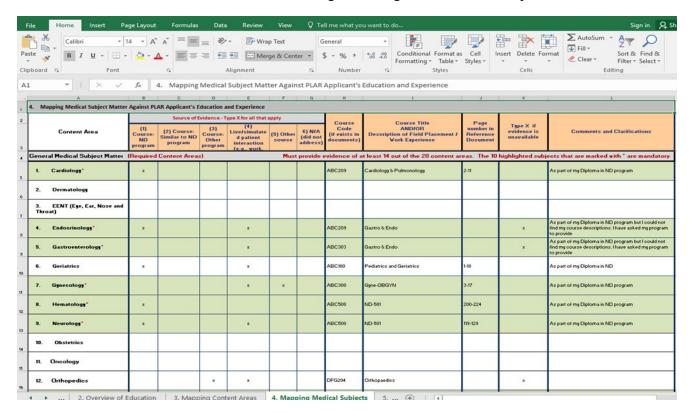
Section 4 – General Medical Subjects

Fill out all the information requested in the "4. Mapping General Medical Subjects" tab of the DEE. Input your information in columns B-G and K by recording "X". Enter all other information in columns H-J. Use column L (Comments and Clarifications) to add any explanations as needed.

Note: In some educational programs, clinical courses are offered in an integrated format with no specification of any medical subjects in the syllabus. In these cases, you might not have direct evidence on the related general medical subjects covered in your studies or the hours dedicated to each of these. If this is your case, please contact the Entry to Practise team at applications@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca. You will be provided with a form that you will send to your educational institution(s), requesting them to complete the missing information. You will then submit the completed form to the College to supplement your DEE.

Below is a sample of a filled form.

Section 4 – Mapping General Medical Subjects Example 1: When courses are well aligned with general medical subjects

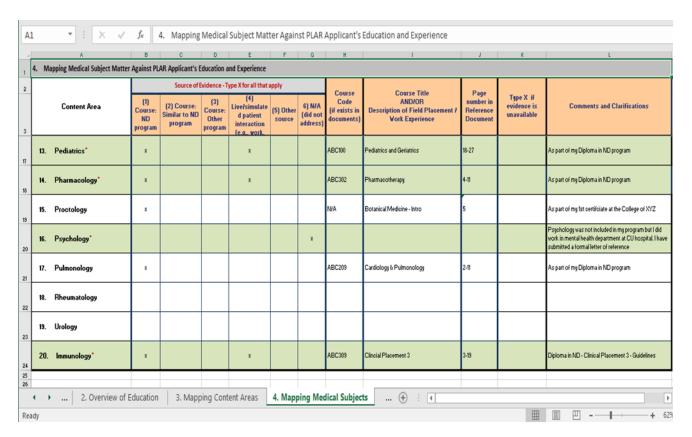


You will see that this section includes 20 general medical subjects. You must provide proof that you have received formal education in at least 14 of these 20 areas. 10 out of these 14 areas are considered critical subjects and are mandatory areas.

While the general medical subjects have no allocation of hours, you must show evidence of a minimum of **1,000 hours in total for the 14 subjects**.



Mapping Medical Subjects, Section 4 – Example 2: When one of the mandatory subjects was not addressed through formal education.



If you did not have formal education in one of the mandatory general medical subjects but you had some form of experience in the field, please fill out a description in column L (see example entry for Psychology above).

Section 5 – Mapping Sources of Education

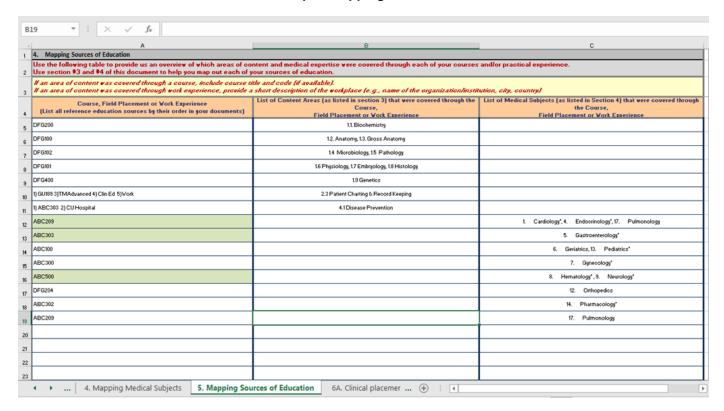
The purpose of this section is to help us determine whether a single course or training was "overused" as evidence for multiple content areas and medical subjects. For example, if a single course of 40 hours is used as the only evidence for 10 different content areas, that could pose a problem as no single course can realistically cover so much ground.

Fill out all the requested information in the "5. Mapping Sources of Education" tab. Refer back to previous tabs where you have already listed each of the courses, and reverse-map all of the courses you identified against content areas. You may wish to use the "search" function on Excel to make it faster and easier.

You are also advised to record the number of hours per type of evidence (e.g., lab, placement or work) in this tab, as much as possible. Record your information in this tab in columns A-C.



Section 5 - Example: Mapping Sources of Education

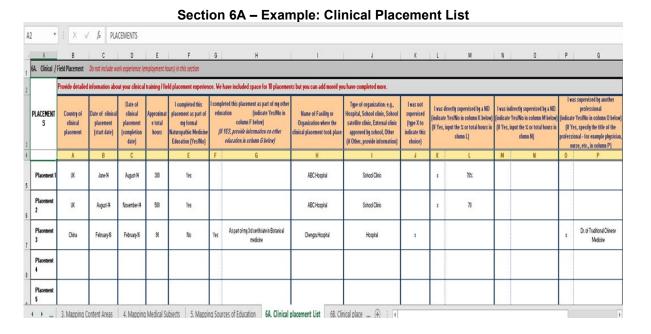


Section 6 - Formal Field Placement / Clinical Placement

Tab 6A - Clinical Placement - List

Fill out all the requested information about your clinical placements, such as country of placements, dates, approximate total hours, and other general information in tab 6A - Clinical Placement List.

We have included 10 rows for clinical/field placements. You may add rows as needed.





Tab 6B - Clinical Placement - Details

Fill out all the requested information in the 6B – Clinical Placement – Details tab. Input your information by recording "X" in rows 10 to 41 to identify the content of your clinical placements.

IMPORTANT: Rows 3-7 are filled out based on the information you recorded in section 6A. This means that the information you recorded in tab 6A will be automatically transferred to the associated fields in tabs 6B and 6C. Do not make changes to these rows. If you need to make any changes, go back to tab 6A and revise the information you provided there. Then, click on tabs 6B and 6C to verify if your changes show up on the correct rows in these two tabs.

If you did not record information in all the columns in tab 6A, rows of these empty fields will indicate "January-00" for dates and "0" for other information. Do not make any changes to these fields.

NOTE: Evidence provided to support clinical placements and work experience should clearly state the responsibilities included in that position (i.e., what did your role require you to do, and what modalities did you perform). Submitting letters of recommendation are beneficial, however may be insufficient for allowing the assessors to determine your role in the position noted.

Tab 6C - Clinical Placement - Modalities

In tab 6C, input the information about the modalities you covered in your clinical placements identified in tab 6A.

- Indicate the client groups you observed.
- Record your information in rows 9 to 25.
- If you have any comments, enter it in row 26.

Below is a sample of a filled-out form.

▼ : × ✓ 6C. Details of Clinical / field placement - Modalities and Other Informat Placement 2 Placement 3 Placement 4 Dates of clinical training (start date) tes of clinical training (completion date) Name of Facility or Organization Chengzu Hospital IN YES or NO F OW AND FOR EAC 1. Acupuncture & principles of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) 2. Western Botanical Medicine 3. Clinical Nutrition 4. Counselling 5. Classical Homeopathy 6. Physical Medicine (including naturopathic manipulation) 8. Hours I practiced as a primary care giver during my clinical training

9. I was personally responsible for hands-on assessment and treatment of patients (Ty) 10 My placement was observation-based; did not include hands-on assessment and treatment of patients (Type in X if applicable) 12. Client-groups I was responsible for or I observed: 12a. Childre 12b. Adul

Section 6C - Example: Clinical Placement Modalities



Section 7 – Professional Practice / Employment

Similar to tabs 6A to 6C, there are three tabs for section 7 (Professional Practice). Input general information such as country/province you worked in and dates of employment in the first tab (7A).

We used the term "Professional Practice/Employment" to describe any hands-on experience, including self-employment, paid and non-paid work.

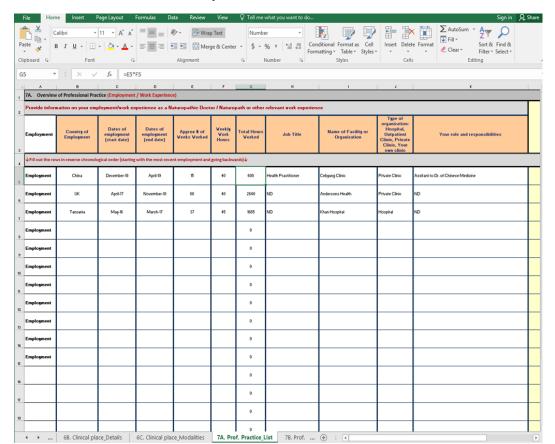
Remember that the general information you entered in tab 7A will be automatically transferred to the top section of tabs 7B and 7C. Do not make changes to these rows. If you need to make a change, go back to the first tab (7A), make your changes, and verify that your changes show up on tabs 7B and 7C.

Record information on your professional practice as a Naturopathic Doctor or other relevant employment, filling out the rows in reverse chronological order starting with the most recent employment and going backwards.

Do not enter any information in column G: Total Work hours. The total hours will be automatically calculated based on the information you enter in columns E and F. Record details of your professional practice in tab 7B and modalities in tab 7C.

Tab 7A - Professional Practice - List

Fill out the requested information in tab "7A Professional Practice-List". Input your information in columns B to F then H to L for each of your workplaces. You may add rows as needed.



Section 7A - Example: Prof. Practice List

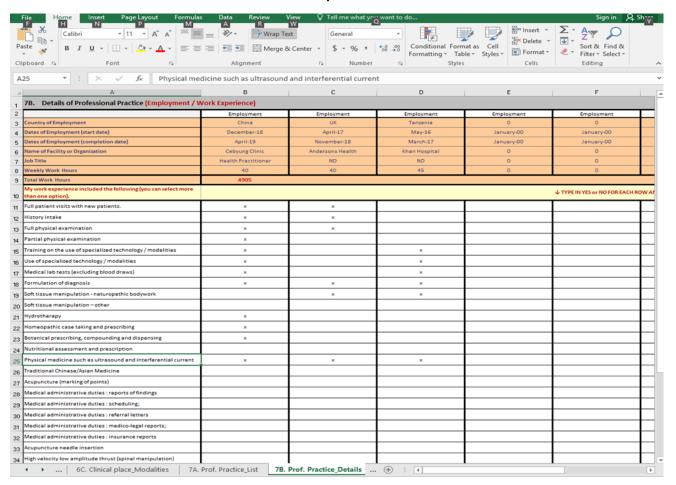


Tab 7B - Professional Practice - Details

Fill out all the requested information in the DEE- Professional Practice.

Input your information by recording "X" in rows 11-42 for each of your workplaces. Indicate what was included in your work/professional practice. You can select more than one option. Below is a sample of a filled form.

Section 7B - Example: Prof. Practice - Details

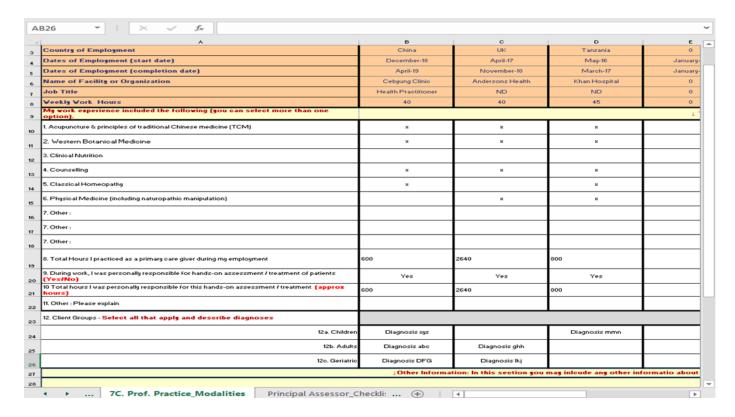




Tab 7C – Professional Practice - Modalities

Input your information by recording "X" in rows 10-26 in tab 7C for each of your workplaces. Indicate all the modalities that you covered during your work / professional practice. You can select more than one option. Indicate the client groups that you assessed and treated and describe diagnosis.

Section 7C – Example: Prof. Practice – Modalities



IMPORTANT: The DEE includes additional tabs for the PLAR Assessor and PLAR Committee. Do not attempt to use these tabs.

If you did not record information in all the columns in tab 7A, rows of these empty fields will indicate "January-00" for dates and "0" for other information. Do not make any changes to these fields. See Section 7B – Example: Prof. Practice – Details, columns E and F (rows 3 and 4).

NEXT STEPS

Submitting the DEE and supporting documents

As a fillable Excel file, the DEE form must be submitted by email to the Entry to Practise team at applications@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca.

Once received, the form will be saved to your applicant file, and staff will await receipt of the supporting documents. It is recommended that all documents being used to support your DEE form be sent as one submission to ensure review of your DEE can be completed in a timely manner.

The submission of DEE supporting documents should be mailed to:

THE COLLEGE OF NATUROPATHS OF ONTARIO ATTN: ENTRY TO PRACTISE DEPT 10 KING STREET EAST, SUITE 1001 TORONTO, ON M5C 1C3



Please be aware that, the College's office is closed to the public and visits are by appointment only. Documents may be sent to the College by regular mail, registered mail or courier. If wishing to drop items off in-person, please contact Entry-to-Practise team at applications@collegeofnaturopaths.on.ca to book an appointment.

Paying the paper-based assessment fee

Once the DEE form and the supporting documents have been received by the College, the paper-based assessment fee of \$300 + HST (\$339) will be billed to you. This fee is payable online by credit card (MASTERCARD or VISA only; American Express and debit credit cards cannot be accepted) or by mailing in a cheque or money order made payable to The College of Naturopaths of Ontario. Please do not use abbreviations or acronyms as this will result in your payment being returned to you.

Timelines for Review & Decision

Following receipt of the fee, your file will be assigned to a PLAR assessor for review. Based on the information provided, the PLAR assessor will make recommendations regarding whether you have satisfied all, most or not enough of the required content areas and general medical subject matter areas to move forward in the PLAR process. This review typically takes 2-3 weeks to complete. In instances where supplementary evidence is required the timeline will vary at which time applicants will be apprised. It's important to remember that this Stage of the PLAR program is to assess what education and experience you have obtained and whether or not such education and experience is approved as being substantially equivalent to ensure you can be successful in the PLAR program. These determinations are made based on what is submitted by you.

When the assessor has completed their review, the file and the assessor's recommendations are then provided to the PLAR Committee. The PLAR Committee is tasked with making a decision on whether you are eligible to move to Stage 2 (PLAR Examination #1), whether some identified gaps in your knowledge or experience need to be remedied with additional training or education before being eligible to move onto Stage 2, or whether your education and experience has too many gaps in which case you will be notified of your inability to move forward in the process and may wish to seek enrolment in an accredited program or registration in a profession that more closely matches your education and experience. The average time for a decision to be rendered by the PLAR Committee is 4-8 weeks.

The average time for receipt of a decision on Stage 1 of the PLAR program is 2-3 months following the College's receipt of all documents and the fee.



APPENDIX A: SELF ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Review Appendix B for a detailed list of content areas then fill out the last two columns of Appendix A (yes/no) to assess the compatibility of your education and experience with the educational requirements of naturopathic doctors in Ontario, as well as your readiness/ability to complete the PLAR program. This can also be used as a checklist to help you ensure you have provided sufficient evidence for each criterion.

Note:

- 1. All the listed content areas (1-4) are mandatory.
- 2. In the General Medical Subjects, you will need to provide evidence on 14 out of the 20 subjects, with 10 of them being mandatory. A minimum of 1000 hours of learning are required over 14 General Medical Subject Matter Areas.
- 3. A minimum of 960 hours of **clinical experience** is required.

Supporting Content	Required education	Minimum	I meet	I'm ready to write
Area	and/or experience	Hours	requirements	an exam
1. Body Systems and	Their Interactions			
1.1 Biochemistry	Formal education ¹	35		
1.2 Anatomy	Formal education	140		
1.3 Gross Anatomy	Formal education	60		
1.4 Microbiology	Formal education	50		
1.5 Pathology	Formal education	25		
1.6 Physiology	Formal education	20		
1.7 Embryology	Formal education	20		
1.8 Histology	Formal education	25		
1.9 Genetics	Formal education	25		
2. Patient Assessment				
2.1 Diagnostic	Either formal or informal ²			
Assessment	education; must have	200		
	evidence of interaction with	200		
	patients ³			
2.2 Differential	Either formal or informal			
Diagnosis	education; must have	200		
	evidence of interaction with			
	patients			
2.3 Patient Charting	Either formal or informal	15		
& Record Keeping	education			
2.4 Physical Exam	Either formal or informal			
	education; must have			
	evidence of interaction with	200		
	patients (see content area			
	description, appendix B)			

¹ Formal education may include courses, seminars, workshops, etc. that have a formal structure, predefined curriculum, and performance evaluation.

² Informal education may include supervised placement or work experience.

³ Interaction with patients may be either live or simulated.



Supporting Content	Required education	Minimum	I meet	I'm ready to write
Area	and/or experience	Hours	requirements	an exam
2.5 Psychological	Either formal or informal			
Assessment	education; must have	20		
	evidence of interaction with	20		
	patients			
3. Treatment – Naturo	pathic			
3.1 Acupuncture &	Formal or informal education	220		
principles of	obtained within naturopathic	220 +		
traditional Chinese	or related context; must have	Min. 30 hours		
medicine	evidence of interaction with	practical/		
	patients	hands-on		
3.2 Western	Formal education obtained			
Botanicals	within naturopathic or	220		
	related context			
3.3 Clinical Nutrition	Formal education obtained			
	within naturopathic or	220		
	related context			
3.4 Counselling	Formal or informal education			
	obtained within naturopathic			
	or related context; must have	50		
	evidence of interaction with			
	patients			
3.5 Classical	Formal education	220		
Homeopathy		220		
3.6 Naturopathic	Formal education obtained			
Principles & Theory	within naturopathic or	25		
	related context			
3.7 Physical	Formal or informal education			
Therapies (including	obtained within naturopathic			
naturopathic	or related context; must have			
manipulation and	evidence of interaction with	120		
exercise therapy)	patients (see content area			
	description appendix B)			
4. Prognosis & Manag				
4.1 Disease	Formal or informal education	960		
Prevention	obtained within naturopathic	(as part of		
	or related context	clinical		
		experience)		
4.2 Health Education	Formal or informal education	960		
& Promotion	obtained within naturopathic	(as part of		
	or related context	clinical ·		
		experience)		



Supporting Content	Required education	Minimum	I meet	I'm ready to write
Area	and/or experience	Hours	requirements	an exam
4.3 Inter-	Formal or informal education	960		
professional		(as part of		
Collaboration		clinical		
		experience)		
4.4 Therapeutic -	Formal or informal	960		
emergency	education; must have	(as part of		
	evidence of interaction with	clinical		
	patients	experience)		

5. General Medical Subjects (minimum required hours: 1,000 for a minimum of 14 subjects; 10 of the subjects are mandatory) Mandatory or required but not I meet I'm ready to **Subject Matter Area** write an exam mandatory requirements Cardiology Mandatory subject Dermatology EENT (Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat) Endocrinology Mandatory subject Gastroenterology Mandatory subject Geriatrics Mandatory subject Gynecology Hematology Mandatory subject **Immunology** Mandatory subject Neurology Mandatory subject Obstetrics (excluding childbirth) Oncology Orthopedics **Pediatrics** Mandatory subject Pharmacology Mandatory subject **Proctology Psychology** Mandatory subject Pulmonology Rheumatology Urology



APPENDIX B: DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT AREAS

Content Area 1: Body Systems and their Interactions

Mandatory Content Area

Naturopathy views the ten body systems (circulatory, respiratory, nervous, muscular, skeletal, digestive, endocrine, immune, reproductive, and integumentary) as an interconnected web of systems which are vital for the healthy function of the human body. Naturopathy considers the interaction of physical, mental, emotional, genetic, environmental, and social factors in determining the possible underlying causes of illness in patient care, and places emphasis on the well-balanced functioning of all aspects of the individual to both prevent disease and aid in recovery from disease.

Example: In the case of gallstones, a Naturopathic Doctor would not focus solely on gallbladder function but would also consider the role of the liver, diet, digestive system health, as well as the patient's emotional state and lifestyle habits in determining the possible underlying causes and an appropriate treatment plan.

Supporting content areas to verify knowledge of Body Systems and their interactions:

Supporting Content Area	Description
1.1 Biochemistry Range of hours: 35-45	An understanding of the biochemical principles of metabolism as they apply to health and disease. Knowledge and understanding of: • biochemical pathways and homeostasis in relation to clinical applications • biochemical principles as they relate to the assessment and management of patients • the following knowledge areas: carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, digestion and
	metabolism, the Kreb's cycle, glycolysis and gluconeogenesis
1.2 Anatomy Range of hours: 140-150	 Knowledge and understanding of: principal anatomical features of the respiratory, cardiovascular, digestive, urinary and nervous systems principal anatomical features of cranial, thoracic, abdominal and pelvic regions the biomechanics of the joints of the human body the principles of myology (muscular origins, insertions, actions and innervations) roles of a single muscle, muscle group or muscle layer innervation, both motor and sensory the roles of the spinal cord and spinal nerves for innervation of locomotor system structures the developmental anatomy of the human embryo/fetus the identification of anatomical congenital anomalies
1.3 Gross Anatomy Range of hours: 60-70	Identification of the larger structures of the body that are visible without magnification, either through dissection or the study of dissected human cadavers. Knowledge and understanding of: • the organ systems of the body: skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary and reproductive systems • origins of muscles, muscle groups or muscle layers as well as their innervations • the spinal cord and spinal nerve pathways for innervation of locomotor system structures • the pathways of the circulatory system, both venous and arterial
1.4 Microbiology	Knowledge and understanding of:



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Range of hours: 50-60	 how to identify and differentiate the major groups of bacteria, viruses, parasites, and fungi the pathogenesis, epidemiology, and syndromes caused by disease-causing microorganisms basic pathological and physiological changes that may occur in a patient during an infectious disease process the relationship of medical microbiology to other health related issues how to correlate clinical assessment information with laboratory information to establish a naturopathic diagnosis
1.5 Pathology	Knowledge and understanding of:
Range of hours: 25-35	 the basis of disease, cellular and tissue responses to injury, inflammation, healing and repair and neoplasia common diseases of the various organs and organ systems of the body pathophysiology of local and systemic changes occurring in the body during illness
1.6 Physiology	Knowledge and understanding of:
Range of hours: 65-75	 basic principles of physiology and homeostasis the integration of organ systems basic metabolism, immunology, bone, joint and muscle physiology links between structure and function of respiratory, gastrointestinal, endocrine, cardiovascular, and renal physiology male and female reproductive physiology the relationships between pathogenic processes and altered physiological responses
1.7 Embryology	Knowledge and understanding of:
Range of hours: 20-25	 developmental mechanisms and early development of human embryos, including cellular and molecular events gametogenesis, fertilization and implantation development of the embryo from zygote to neural tube formation development of organ systems in the human body
1.8 Histology	Knowledge and understanding of:
Range of hours: 25-35	 the structural and functional organization of the human body at the cellular and subcellular levels, studied microscopically how groups of cells associate to form organs with specialized functions the four basic types of tissues: epithelial, connective, muscular and nervous, and how they associate to form the organs of the body
1.9 Genetics	Knowledge and understanding of:
Range of hours: 25-35	 the structure and function of the DNA molecule to its functional role in encoding genetic material principles of inheritance as formulated by Mendel normal chromosome number, structure, and behaviour in human cells, including the effects of alterations in chromosome number and/or structure epigenetics in human health and disease, and the interaction of the genome with environmental exposures



Content Area 2: Patient Assessment

Mandatory Content Area

A naturopathic assessment works on two key principles: the importance of risk factors and viewing the person as a whole system. Naturopathic assessments evaluate the underlying causes of illness on all levels (e.g., physical, mental, emotional, genetic, environmental and social factors), to appropriately direct treatment and, using a variety of diagnostic tools, seek to uncover early signs of illness.

Example: A condition, such as eczema, could be viewed by a Naturopathic Doctor as a potential symptom of an immune system imbalance, and therefore, the ND will consider the areas of the body that can affect the immune system, including the lymphatic system, the digestive tract, stress hormones and food triggers.

Supporting content areas to verify knowledge of Patient Assessment:

Supporting Content Area	Description
2.1 Diagnostic Assessment Must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated. Range of hours: 200-250 (clinical experience required as part of the 960 hours) 2.2 Differential Diagnosis	 Knowledge and understanding of: how to identify and interpret clinical indicators of common diseases signs of life-threatening disorders including the need for urgent and emergent health care information gathering techniques for formulating a naturopathic diagnosis history taking, appropriate physical and laboratory diagnostic examinations and procedures to establish a full assessment management goals and monitoring methods for individual conditions based on knowledge of the disease process Knowledge and understanding of:
Must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated. Range of hours: 200-250 (clinical experience required as part of the required 960 hours)	 how to interpret and evaluate information derived from patient history, physical exam, and laboratory investigations to formulate preliminary differential diagnoses how to integrate new information into clinical reasoning to develop a working diagnosis. how to formulate an accurate naturopathic diagnosis how to rule differentials in or out based on subsequent clinical evaluation
2.3 Patient Charting & Record Keeping Range of hours: 15-20 hours (clinical experience required as part of the 960 hours)	 Knowledge and understanding of: the need for documentation of patient information, including obtaining informed consent the ability to record a full medical history and physical examination findings defining the S (subjective), O (objective), A (assessment) and P (plan) sections of a medical record and how they relate to each other how to acquire, synthesize and record clinical information when managing the health issues of patients appropriate medical acronyms, patient file notations and billing records
2.4 Physical Exam Must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated, including evidence of having performed the following exams:	 Knowledge and understanding of: proper techniques for taking vitals and for performing a full patient assessment, including the following systems: cardiovascular, respiratory, abdominal, neurological, ears, eyes, nose, and throat (EENT), musculoskeletal and reproductive (male and female) how to identify normal and abnormal findings during the physical examination that require referral to an emergency health care provider or require a specialist evaluation



Female pelvic exams: minimum number of 2 Digital rectal exams: minimum number of 2 Breast exams: minimum number of 2 General screening exams: minimum number of 12 Range of hours: 50-60 (clinical experience required as part of the 960	 appropriate sanitation procedures, instrument sterilization, aseptic techniques, and infection control protocol requirements around obtaining informed consent how to interpret the obtained results of inspection, palpation, percussion, auscultation special assessment techniques (pelvic, rectal, genital)
hours) 2.5 Psychological	Knowledge and understanding of:
Assessment –	 the basic principles of counselling psychology and intentional interviewing
Must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated. Range of hours: 20-30	 assessment techniques for eliciting and evaluating relevant information to properly assess mental health issues common psychiatric disorders seen at a primary care level how to assess a patient for mental and emotional disorders as they are found in
(clinical experience required as part of the 960 hours)	 the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) how to develop rapport and establish a positive therapeutic alliance

Content Area 3: Patient Assessment

Mandatory Content Area: Education must have been acquired through a naturopathic program or similar education with a holistic approach to assessment and treatment

Naturopathy treats diseases, disorders and dysfunctions using naturopathic techniques to promote, maintain or restore health. Naturopathic treatments are diverse by nature, working on the principle of treating the body as a whole, engaging patient participation in lifestyle modifications and health promotion, and placing a strong emphasis on restoring balance and health even in the absence of disease. Where possible, the end goal of a naturopathic treatment is to restore complete health. For example, to treat hypertension, a Naturopathic Doctor may use acupuncture, botanical medicine, homeopathic remedies, diet and lifestyle counselling.

Supporting content areas to verify knowledge of Naturopathic Treatment:

Supporting Content Area	Description
Acupuncture & principles of Asian Medicine Must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated.	 Knowledge and understanding of: traditional Chinese medicine pattern identification and terminology Qi and Blood diagnostic system tongue and pulse diagnosis, including the 12 qualities of traditional Chinese medicine pulses Zang-fu diagnoses traditional Chinese medicine organ system, including 6 pathogen factors
	acupuncture point location, safe and clean needling technique

23



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Range of hours: 220 plus at least 30 hours practical/hands-on, based on World Health Organization Standard for Performance of Acupuncture	 indications (Western and Asian), contraindications, safety concerns of acupuncture and adjunct therapies how to evaluate the patient's response to treatment Practical performance of Western and Asian (traditional Chinese medicine principle-based) acupuncture including: clean and safe needling technique appropriate point selection, needle depth and needle angulation proper disposal of used needles
Botanicals (Western)	Knowledge and understanding of:
Range of hours: 220–230	 evidence-based, medicinal uses of botanicals the traditional uses of and pharmacological aspects of herbs therapeutic actions, categories and indications of specific herbs including clinical effects on different body systems dosage strategies, contraindications, interactions, and safety issues formulating single and 3-herb combination botanical prescriptions
3.3 Clinical Nutrition	Knowledge and understanding of:
Range of hours: 220-230	 the relationship between nutrition, health, and disease the function of macro and micronutrients required for human health vitamin and mineral requirements and Reference Daily Intake (RDI) the clinical application of nutrients including therapeutic dosages and adverse effects laboratory methods for assessing nutritional status the relation of clinical nutrition to health promotion, disease prevention and disease treatment - including diet, lifestyle, and evidence-based intervention plans assessing macro and micronutrients status prescribing nutritional supplements and dietary recommendations specific to diagnosis and treatment plan
3.4 Counselling	Knowledge and understanding of:
Must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated Range of hours: 50-60	 the fundamental counselling skills to promote psychological health appropriate therapeutic intervention to meet the needs of the patient techniques to accommodate special requirements (e.g., acute care, mental illness, and crisis situations) how to manage emergent and co-morbid conditions
3.5 Classical Homeopathy Range of hours: 220-230	 Case management that applies counselling techniques for: communication of naturopathic diagnosis eliciting critical information relating to the health of the patient expected outcomes and recommendations for frequency of follow-up care managing elements of a therapeutic relationship that may include projection, transference, and countertransference making appropriate referrals and providing options for collaborative care Knowledge and understanding of: the core principles of homeopathic medicine as described by Samuel Hahnemann, including Hahnemann's 5 defining principles of homeopathic medicine (The Law of Similars, The Totality of Symptoms, The Single Remedy, The Minimum Dose, and Provings)



	how to elicit and record essential patient information through effective listening,
	observing, examining and/or questioning, specifically as it applies to homeopathic
	case taking
	how to effectively and efficiently use the homeopathic repertory to translate a
	patient's symptom descriptions into repertory rubrics
	 how to analyse homeopathic cases using multiple analysis tools including
	repertorization and possibly with the use of the identification of kingdom, miasm
	and/or plant families
	how to utilize appropriate materia medica to research and identify the indicated
	homeopathic remedy and determine the appropriate posology for individual
	patients
3.6 Naturopathic Principles	Knowledge and understanding of:
and Theory	 the historical foundation and philosophy that serve as the basis for the modern
and meery	profession of naturopathy
	 the meaning and implications of the Naturopathic Doctor's Oath
Range of hours: 25-30	the meaning and implications of the Nataropathic botton's Guth the practical application of naturopathic philosophy when treating patients
2.7 Physical Thoronics	
3.7 Physical Therapies (including naturopathic	Knowledge and understanding of:
	musculoskeletal disease and injury, and the appropriate management of these
manipulation and	conditions using naturopathic modalities
exercise therapy)	appropriate treatment based on the disease, or the stage of healing and body
Paras of houses 120 120	part injured, using patient education, hydrotherapy, exercise, soft tissue
Range of hours: 120-130	techniques, and physical modalities including naturopathic manipulation
	Physical Medicine
Must provide evidence of	range of motion (ROM): Active, Passive and Resisted ROM for shoulder, elbow,
Must provide evidence of	wrist and hand, lumbar and thoracic spine, hip and pelvis, knee, ankle, foot
interaction with patients, either live or simulated.	neurological: dermatome, myotome, and reflex
either live of simulated.	orthopedic tests (Adson's, Costoclavicular test, thoracic outlet syndrome,
Must also provide evidence	Yergason's, Speed's, Napoleon Sign, Liftoff Test, Finkelstein's, Phalen's, Tinel's,
•	Ely's, Clark's, Apley's, McMurray's, Homan's, Anterior drawer)
of having performed the following naturopathic	manual treatment (stretching, trigger points, exercise prescription, and massage)
	hydrotherapy (sauna, salt baths, brushing, contrast showers, constitutional
manipulation adjustments (minimum):	hydrotherapy, castor oil)
Cervical manipulations – 4	physical modality indications, contraindications, and techniques for performing
Thoracic manipulations – 4	and the mechanism of operation for ultrasound, electric current, electromagnetic radiation, laser, diathermy, ultraviolet radiation
Lumbar/SI manipulations - 4	the design of a rehabilitation plan, applying findings of physical assessment and
	treatment modalities in office and for the patient to continue at home
	Naturopathic Manipulation
	spinal assessment and adjustment: sacroiliac joint, lumbar spine (flexion and)
	extension), thoracic spine (flexion, extension, and rotation), cervical spine (flexion
	and extension), upper cervical spine (flexion, extension, rotation)
	peripheral joint assessment and adjustment: ribs (costal sternal, costal vertebral,
	first rib), glenohumeral joint, scapular joint, elbow joint, wrist joint, hip joint, knee
	joint, ankle joint
	 using motion and static palpation to assess for subluxations
	 knowledge of contraindications, both relative and absolute, to naturopathic
	manipulation
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Content Area 4: Prognosis & Management

Mandatory Content Area

Naturopathic medicine is adaptive, with the intention of moving a patient from a state of disease or imbalance towards health and self-sufficiency. Management is typically highly patient-centred with a strong belief in the body's inherent ability to self-regulate and heal when given the right tools. Prognosis takes into consideration patient participation in their treatment plan rather than just the efficacy of a supplement or drug. For example, the prognosis for a patient with diabetes is impacted by the patient's participation in diet modifications, along with a combination of other therapies, to aid in managing a chronic disease.

Supporting content areas to verify knowledge of Prognosis & Management:

Supporting Content Area	Description
4.1 Disease Prevention Naturopathics or a similar education only Range of hours: completed within the 960 hours (minimum) of clinical experience	 Knowledge and understanding of: the health effects of environmental exposures from air, water, food, medication, activities, work, and home environments the cause and contribution of food and diet, including allergies and other diet-related health issues the cause and contribution of stress and emotional factors on health and disease
4.2 Health Education & Promotion Naturopathicor a similar education only Range of hours: completed within the 960 hours (minimum) of clinical experience	 Knowledge and understanding of: the principle of doctor as teacher in patient interactions to promote health and well-being the need to explain the importance of the recommended treatments or lifestyle changes and why they are important in treating disease and maintaining health the patient's compliance as being vital to achieving the desired outcomes
4.3 Inter-professional Collaboration Range of hours: completed within the 960 hours (minimum) of clinical experience	 Knowledge and understanding of: conventional medical treatments for common primary care conditions patient referral indicators professional responsibilities for developing and maintaining relationships communicating with other health care providers in the care of one's patient
4.4 Therapeutic - emergency Must provide evidence of interaction with patients, either live or simulated Range of hours: completed within 960 hours (minimum) of clinical experience	 Knowledge and understanding of: how to identify and assess life-threatening conditions (cardiorespiratory arrest, dysrhythmias, shock, respiratory distress, and altered levels of consciousness) how to initiate basic life support (CPR) CPR for adults and children



General Medical Subjects

Mandatory Subject Matter

Subject Matter Area	Description	
Cardiology	History taking, physical examination, laboratory, and diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, diagnosis, referral indicators, treatment and management of conditions affecting the cardiovascular system.	
Dermatology	History taking, presentation, diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, referral indicators, diagnosis, and treatment of common skin conditions.	
EENT (Ears, Eyes, Nose & Throat)	History taking, physical examination specific to ophthalmologic and otolaryngologic conditions, laboratory, and diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, referral indicators, diagnosis and treatment of conditions affecting the eyes, ears, nose, and throat.	
Endocrinology	History taking, physical examination, laboratory, and diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, referral indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common endocrine disorders.	
Gastroenterology	History taking, physical examination, laboratory, and diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, referral indicators, diagnosis, treatment and management of gastrointestinal disorders and diseases.	
Geriatrics	History taking and physical examination specific to geriatric patients, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, and non-pathological abnormalities, referral indicators, diagnosis, treatment and management of age-related degenerative changes and conditions.	
Gynecology	History taking, physical examination specific to female reproductive health, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology and non-pathological abnormalities, referral indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common gynaecological conditions.	
Hematology	History taking, physical examination, laboratory, and diagnostic evaluation, specific to assessing normal blood parameters and cells, referral indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common hematological disorders.	
Immunology	History taking specific to immunological concerns and allergies, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, referral indicators, pathophysiology, diagnosis, treatment, and management of immune system health and autoimmune conditions and disorders.	
Neurology	History taking, physical examination specific to neurological health, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, referral indicators, diagnosis, treatment and management of common neurological disorders.	
Obstetrics (excluding childbirth)	History taking, physical examination specific to pregnancy-related physiological processes, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, referral indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common issues related to pregnancy and postpartum.	



Diagnostic (identification), etiologic (causation) and epidemiologic (disease pattern) information and epidemiologic (disease pattern) information. Pediatrics History taking, physical examination specific to laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, pathophy management of common issues affecting the job like physical examination specific to pediatric patient diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, referrate treatment, and management of common pedia lindications, mechanisms of action, safety conce interactions of common pharmaceutical drugs in the general principles behind the administration excretion of pharmaceutical agents. Proctology History taking, physical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and managem issues.	· ·
laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, pathophy management of common issues affecting the job History taking and communication with parents physical examination specific to pediatric patient diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, referra treatment, and management of common pedia lindications, mechanisms of action, safety conce interactions of common pharmaceutical drugs in the general principles behind the administration excretion of pharmaceutical agents. Proctology History taking, physical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common pathophysical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common pathophysical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common pathophysical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common pathophysical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common pathophysical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common pathophysical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management of common pathophysical examination specific to an anticological	n for cancers of common sites.
Pharmacology Indications, mechanisms of action, safety conceed interactions of common pharmaceutical drugs in the general principles behind the administration excretion of pharmaceutical agents. History taking, physical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and management.	rsiology, diagnosis, treatment, and
Pharmacology interactions of common pharmaceutical drugs in the general principles behind the administration excretion of pharmaceutical agents. Proctology History taking, physical examination specific to and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and managements.	nts, laboratory and I indicators, diagnosis,
Proctology and anus, laboratory and diagnostic evaluation, indicators, diagnosis, treatment, and managem	n western medicine, and
	, pathophysiology, referral
Psychology History taking, factors relating to psychopathology psychopathology, basic principles of counselling and communication methods, referral indicator	g, intentional interviewing
Pulmonology History taking, physical examination specific to diagnostic evaluation, pathophysiology, referra treatment and management of common respira	l indicators, diagnosis,
Rheumatology History taking, physical examination, laboratory specific to rheumatic conditions, pathophysiolo treatment, and management of common rheum	gy, referral indicators, diagnosis,
Urology History taking, physical examination, laboratory specific to renal function, referral indicators, did urinary tract issues and management of renal contents.	agnosis and treatment of common