



The College of Naturopaths of Ontario

Standard of Practice:

Recommending Non-Scheduled Substances



Introduction

The intent of this standard is to advise Members, who recommend non-scheduled substances in the provision of Naturopathic care, how to perform the act safely, ethically and competently.

Definitions

Non-Scheduled Substances: for the purpose of this Standard a non-scheduled substance is anything that is publicly available and is not listed on Table 3 of the General Regulation.

Recommendation: For the purpose of this Standard a recommendation is an advised course of treatment using non-scheduled substances.

1. Competency

The Member has the knowledge, skill and judgment to recommend non-scheduled substances safely, ethically, and competently.

Performance Indicators

Prior to recommending non-scheduled substances, the Member:

- fulfills all requirements for maintenance of competence for performing the procedure (e.g., continuing education, College's Quality Assurance Program).

2. Recommending Non-Scheduled Substances

The Member conducts an assessment and formulates a working diagnosis based on subjective and/or objective findings, prior to recommending non-scheduled substances.

Performance Indicators

The Member recommends non-scheduled substances within the context of the doctor-patient relationship.

Before recommending a non-scheduled substance, the Member:

- assesses the patient and conducts laboratory and diagnostic investigations as appropriate;
- documents symptoms and/or conditions being treated; and
- reviews the patient's available medication history.

The Member who recommends non-scheduled substances:

- provides a written recommendation except in emergency situations; and

- documents the recommendation in the patient record.
- provides relevant information about non-scheduled substances, including but not limited to risks, contraindications, and proper usage, to the patient and/or authorized patient representative.

When preparing a recommendation for a non-scheduled substance, the Member includes the following:

- date;
- patient's name;
- name of substance/product, strength, dose and quantity to be dispensed;
- directions for use including the administration route, frequency, duration and any special instructions; and
- Member's name, address, signature, and College registration number.

After recommending a non-scheduled substance, the Member:

- monitors and documents the patient's response to the therapy;
- monitors, documents and reports adverse reactions; and
- continues therapy, adjusts dosage or discontinues the therapy as appropriate.

Related Standards & Guidelines

Communicating a Diagnosis

Conflict of Interest

Prescribing

Record Keeping

Selling

Therapeutic Relationships and Professional Boundaries

Legislative Framework

[General Regulation](#)

[Naturopathy Act, 2007](#)

[Professional Misconduct Regulation](#)

[Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991](#)

Disclaimer

In the event of any inconsistency between this standard and any legislation that governs the practice of Naturopathic Doctors, the legislation shall govern.