



August 13, 2020

News



Important—Renewal deadlines are coming up: Sep. 30, 5 p.m.

In April, the College Council approved several important measures to ease the financial burden that Members are experiencing because of COVID-19. Among these measures were a 40% reduction of the registration renewal fees for 2020-2021, an extended payment deadline and a CPR certification renewal extension.

What should I do before September 30, 2020?

- [Pay your registration fee](#) if you have not already done so. Members who are not paying online must ensure their cheque, money order or bank draft is received by the College by 5 p.m. on September 29, 2020. If paying your fee by cheque or money order, it must be made payable to the College of Naturopaths of Ontario.
- Complete the Advertising self-assessment questionnaire.
- Renew your CPR Certification if it expired on or after February 1, 2020.

Find more information on the [Registration Renewal 2020 webpage](#).

New Telepractice Guideline and Revised Standard of Practice for Infection Control

Infection prevention and control are critical parts of a Member's practice, adding an important layer of safety to interactions between NDs and patients.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has made infection prevention and control more of a priority than ever before, especially due to the numerous ways the disease can be spread from person to person.

As part of the College's mission to protect the public and ensure safe, competent and ethical care by NDs, the College conducted a review of the *Standard of Practice for Infection Control* and created a *Telepractice Guideline* and consulted with Members, the public, other health regulatory Colleges and various stakeholders.

Among the changes made to the *Standard of Practice for Infection Control* were updates on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), increasing signage and visual cues, important considerations to be kept in mind for adding physical barriers, and more.

Additionally, the College added a new *Telepractice Guideline* which outlines important factors and considerations for Members to provide remote visits, including maintaining confidentiality and privacy, obtaining informed consent, and keeping proper patient records.

Read the new [Telepractice Guideline](#)

Read the updated [Standard of Practice for Infection Control](#)

Revisions to the sexual abuse materials for patients and NDs

The Patient Relations Committee has undertaken a process of updating the College's patient relations resources for patients and NDs. At the July 29 meeting, Council approved several changes to the patient's *Information Guide: Understanding Sexual Abuse* and the *Guideline for the Prevention of Sexual Abuse* for Members.

Below is a summary of the changes that were made to the guides based on expert feedback:

[Member Guide](#)

- Inclusion of the definition of a patient as described in the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* (RHPA).
- Inclusion that Informed Consent is clearly documented in situations where touch may include sensitive areas such as upper thigh, buttocks, breasts etc.
- A specific reference noting that there is no such thing as patient consent to a sexual relationship.
- Updated the penalties available to the Discipline Committee to align with the RHPA.

[Patient Guide](#)

- Inclusion of the definition of a patient as described in the RHPA.
 - Additional information added to the Appropriate Touching section including that you can refuse consent and also request another person be in the room.
 - Added specific references that sexual abuse is not the patient's fault.
 - Added an additional section on the College's Counselling and Therapy Program and information about filing a complaint, including College contact information.
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FAQ



Stay up to date! Find the answers to your **COVID-19-related questions** [here](#).

I have a patient who has moved to Quebec and wants to continue seeing me remotely. I am confident that it is appropriate for me to provide care to this patient virtually, however I am not sure if I am allowed to treat them now that they are living in Quebec.

When a patient is located in a jurisdiction outside of Ontario that does not regulate naturopathy, such as Quebec, the Member must continue to meet all applicable laws and standards of practice for Ontario. They must also ensure that they comply with any laws in the jurisdiction where the patient is located that may restrict them from providing care.

When the patient is located in a jurisdiction where naturopathy is regulated, such as Alberta, the naturopath must be registered with the regulatory College in that jurisdiction in order to provide care via telepractice.

For more information about providing care by telepractice please refer to the [Telepractice Guideline](#).

Deadlines & Reminders



- **CE credits reporting deadline:** September 30, 2020. [Read the changes to CE credit requirements](#)
- **Ontario Clinical Sciences exam** registration deadline is August 27, 2020
- **Ontario Clinical (Practical) exam** registration is now open! Deadline to register is August 31, 2020
- **College Office to Reopen September 8, 2020** with limited personnel. Visitors must have a prior appointment in order to gain entry and will be required to wear a face mask and maintain physical distancing at all times while on the premises.

Practice



Resources

[Telepractice Guideline](#)

[Standard of Practice for Infection Control](#)

[COVID-19 Reopening Guidelines](#)

Latest Blog Post

- [Providing immune support for patients during COVID-19](#)
- [Volunteer with the College](#)
- [Online Reviews and Advertising](#)



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