College of Naturopaths of Ontario

Naturopathic Refresher Program Guideline

Section 6(2)(a) and 6.1(2)(a) of the Registration Regulation sets out that NDs in the General and Emergency classes of registration may address currency deficiency by successfully completing a refresher program approved by the Registration Committee. The following information has been prepared to help guide NDs in selecting and proposing appropriate refresher training (i.e., a "refresher program") to the Registration Committee for review and approval.

Proposed refresher program training must be submitted via the Refresher Program Submission form. Submissions which do not meet the general criteria, or are incomplete, will not be accepted for referral to the Registration Committee for review.

General Criteria

Proposed Refresher Programs Must:

- Be completed prior to the expiry date of your certificate of registration (i.e., March 31 unless registered in the Emergency class with a different certificate expiry date).

- Align with the core competencies and standards of practice of the profession and fall within the scope of practice of the profession (see **Naturopathic Refresher Program Content Areas** chart).

- Meet 'refresher course' criteria as noted in the Registration Policy, i.e., courses must be offered by a recognized University or College, offered by a CNME-accredited program or have been approved by/meet the approval criteria of the Quality Assurance Committee of the College for **Category A** Continuing Education credits under the Quality Assurance Program.

- Be sufficiently robust (see **Assessment of Program Robustness** chart) in addressing your level of currency deficiency.

Proposed Refresher Programs Cannot:

- Include previously completed courses (e.g., courses completed for meeting Continuing Education requirements)
- Include online courses for refreshing practical skill (all practical skill refresher training must be completed in person)

Assessment of Program Robustness	
Currency Hour Deficiency	**Refresher Program Guideline for Determining Robustness**
• 50-100 hours deficient	Must: • Be a minimum of 48 hours Refresh knowledge or practical skill in at least one of the Naturopathic Refresher Program Content Areas.
• 101-250 hours deficient	Must: • Be a minimum of 96 hours overall, 48 hours of which must be in refreshing practical skill. * • Refresh knowledge and practical skill in at least two of the Naturopathic Refresher Program Content Areas.
• 251-350 hours deficient	Must: • Be a minimum of 120 hours overall, 72 hours of which must be in refreshing practical skill. * • Refresh knowledge and practical skill in at least three of the Naturopathic Refresher Program Content Areas.
• 351-500 hours deficient	Must: • Be a minimum of 144 hours overall, 96 hours of which must be in refreshing practical skill. * • Refresh knowledge and practical skill in at least four of the Naturopathic Refresher Program Content Areas.
• 501 – 750 hours deficient	Must: • Be a minimum of 168 hours overall, 120 hours of which must in refreshing practical skill. * • Refresh knowledge and practical skill in at least four of the Naturopathic Refresher Program Content Areas.

*Practical skill refreshing may include shadowing time with an Ontario regulated Naturopathic Doctor in good standing, up to a maximum of 25% of the total amount of time required for refreshing practical skills.

*Practical skill refreshing is not required for registrants with a non-clinical TCL on their certificate of registration.

Naturopathic Refresher Program Content Areas
Acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine *
Naturopathic Manipulation/Physical Medicine *
Botanical Medicine
Homeopathic Medicine
Internal Examinations *
Physical Exam/Assessment *
Biomedical Sciences
Clinical Sciences
Clinical Nutrition & Lifestyle Counseling
Prescribing/Dispensing/Compounding/Selling a Drug * ** ***
Administering a Substance by Inhalation/Injection (intravenous and non-intravenous)* ***

Collecting clinical samples (including blood draws) for ND point-of-care testing, internal examinations, and for testing as permitted under the *Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act*. *
Patient Care and Health Promotion (e.g., The concepts and values of health promotion and illness prevention, communication, interprofessional collaboration etc).
Practice Management (e.g., professional advertising, risk mitigation, infection control etc.)
Legislation & Ethics (e.g., ethical conduct and integrity in professional practice, mandatory reporting, professional boundaries/avoiding boundary violations, the regulatory framework, record keeping requirements, consent etc.).

*content areas where practical skills refreshing may occur
**practical skills refreshing specific to compounding (including compounding for IVIT)
***content area specific to registrants who have met the Standard of Practice for Prescribing (non-IVIT) and the Standard of Practice for Intravenous Infusion Therapy (IVIT)