RN Prescribing

June 2018
implement RN prescribing safely, competently “non-complex” improve access
Nursing Act

prescribe medication (individual drugs or categories)

communicate diagnosis (for purpose of prescribing)

approved not yet in effect
Government

Parameters

Does not include:

- controlled substances
- labs, diagnostics
- hospital patients
- sexually transmitted infections

current laws
Sectors

Community
- Primary health
- Home health
- Public health

Long-term care

Retirement
You will know…
how to identify
what to expect
role clarity
where to turn
Practice areas

health promotion
prevention
choice

immunization
contraception
travel health (prophylaxis)
smoking cessation
wound care (topical)
Many stakeholders play a role in contributing to our goal of safety.
Employers

consultation, mentorship
access to current evidence
ongoing competence

focus on safety
Clinical supports

ongoing

protocols
drug resource manuals
clinical guidelines
mentorship
Survey
Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurse*</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse employer</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of the public</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other health professional</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*240 nurses identify as employed in public health units (235 RNs; 3 RPNs; 2 NPs)
Do you intend to prescribe? (All RNs)

Of the 235 RNs who work in public health units: 42% said yes; 46% don’t know; 13% said no.
Prescribing expectations: Clarity

Are the draft expectations clear?

90% yes
10% no

Of the 240 nurses who work in public health units: 75% said yes; 8% said no; remainder left blank
Are the changes necessary to protect the public?

- 78% yes
- 17% don’t know
- 5% no

Of the 240 nurses who work in public health units: 63% said yes; 15% don’t know; 4% said no; remainder left blank.
Prescribing expectations: Complete

Are other changes necessary to promote safe medication practices?

15% yes 35% don’t know 50% no

Of the 240 nurses who work in public health units: 9% said yes; 33% don’t know; 40% said no; remainder left blank
Are the medications appropriate?

74% yes  
17% don’t know  
9% no

Of the 240 nurses who work in public health units: 62% said yes; 17% don’t know; 2% said no; remainder left blank
Are there other medications?

14% yes 45% don’t know 41% no

Of the 240 nurses who work in public health units: 15% said yes; 37% don’t know; 29% said no; remainder left blank
Themes

Clarify terms
More clinical detail
More medications, practice areas, diagnostics
Specific risks
More information...
Discussion, Questions