

**REGISTERED NURSES ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHWEST
TERRITORIES AND NUNAVUT
PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY GUIDELINES FOR NWT PRIMARY
HEALTH CARE NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

These Guidelines form an addendum to the August 2005 *RNANT/NU Practice Guidelines for Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioners*, approved by the Minister of Health and Social Services (the Minister), and are approved by the Minister under subsection 5(2) of the *Nursing Profession Act*, S.N.W.T. 2003, c.15 (NPA). For reference, section 5 of the NPA reads,


- 5. (1) The Association may recommend to the Minister guidelines respecting the practice of nurse practitioners.
- (2) The Minister may approve the guidelines recommended by the Association.

These Guidelines, as approved by the Minister, provide the necessary authority for nurse practitioners, as defined in section 1 (Definitions) of the NPA, to prescribe those drugs included in the following Schedules A, B and C, and replace the *Nurse Practitioner Prescription Regulations*, repealed with the coming into force of the new *Pharmacy Act*, S.N.W.T. 2006, c.24, on April 2, 2007.

For further clarification, according to subsection 20(1) of the new *Pharmacy Act*, which reads,

- 20. (1) Before dispensing a drug a pharmacist shall take reasonable steps to satisfy himself or herself that...
- (d) if the practitioner is a "nurse practitioner" as defined in section 1 of the *Nursing Profession Act*, he or she is entitled, under guidelines approved by the Minister under subsection 5(2) of that Act, to prescribe the drug.

a pharmacist should refer to Schedules A, B and C of these Guidelines in order to determine if a nurse practitioner is entitled to prescribe the drug in question before dispensing.



Approved By:
Minister of Health and Social Services



Date:

RNANT/NU
PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY GUIDELINES for
NWT PRIMARY HEALTH CARE NURSE PRACTITIONERS
(PHCNP's)

Prescription Schedules A,B,C

***Please Note :**

This is a COMPANION DOCUMENT to the
NIHB DRUG BENEFIT LIST.

***IT IS NOT TO BE USED ALONE**

Schedule A is a list of inclusions by pharmacologic-therapeutic classification AND exclusions and limitations itemized by sub-classification or drug name from the Jan 2007 NIHB Drug Formulary

Schedule B excludes all NAPRA Schedule 1 drugs NOT mentioned in Schedule A, but contains a secondary list of inclusions that can be prescribed by NP's.

Schedule C is a list of inclusion of NAPRA Schedules 2, 3 and Unscheduled not previously mentioned in Schedule A to the NP Guidelines

Definitions:

"Inclusion": an NP *MAY* prescribe the drug or drugs listed in a particular sub-classification.

"Exclusion": an NP *MAY NOT* prescribe the drug or drugs listed in a particular sub-classification.

"Limitation" restricts NP prescribing to a specified course length or clinical indication.

"Maintenance": an NP may prescribe the drug in the same dosage as originally ordered for the continuation of therapy provided the drug has been previously prescribed for the patient by a physician. As outlined in the Practice Guidelines, it is the responsibility of the NP to continue appropriate screening and monitoring when assuming care in collaborative practice. Note: The NP must write "Maintenance" on Script .

General NP Prescription Guidelines:

- 1) A PHCNP can prescribe all drugs listed in the NIHB Formulary unless there is an exclusion or limitation noted in the schedule A.
- 2) A PHCNP must always prescribe within his/her scope of practice.
- 3) A Community NP (working in a Territorial Health Centre) may perform all duties of a Community Health Nurse (CHN) as well as the legally defined additional functions of the NP. Note: A Community NP may select, dispense, compound and repackage medication under medical directives, policy and guidelines, as the Community Health Nurses may do, in addition to prescribing.
- 4) Combination drugs: unless clearly stated otherwise,
 - a) where both drugs are approved for initial, they are included ,
 - b) where one drug is excluded and the other is included, the combination is drug is excluded.
 - c) where one drug is maintenance the other is an inclusion, the combination drug is maintenance.

SCHEDULE A

A PHCNP may prescribe all drugs in this schedule unless there is an exclusion or limitation.

ANTI-HISTAMINE DRUGS Inclusions: All	04:00.00
ANTI-INFECTIVE DRUGS	08:00.00
Anthelmintics Inclusions: All	08:08.00
Cephalosporins Inclusions: All	08:12.06
Macrolides Inclusions: All	08:12.12
Penicillins Inclusions: All	08:12.16
Quinolones Inclusions: All	08:12:18
Sulfonamides Inclusions: All	08:12.20
Tetracyclines Inclusions: All	08:12.24
Miscellaneous Antibiotics Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Linezolid	08:12:28
Allylamines Inclusions: All	08:14.04
Azoles Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Exclusions: Oral Ketoconazole	08:14.08
Polyenes Inclusions: All	08:14.28
Antituberculosis Agents Maintenance: All NB: Rifampin can be prescribed for meningitis prophylaxis NB: Isoniazid can be prescribed for chemoprophylaxis	08:16.04
Adamantanes	08:18.00

Maintenance: Amantadine NB: May be prescribed for Influenza prophylaxis	
Antiretrovirals Maintenance: All Note: prophylaxis after needle stick injury to be initiated per employer policy	08:18:08
Interferons Exclusions: All	08:18:20
Nucleosides and Nucleotides Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Exclusions: Ganciclovir & Valganciclovir	08:18:32
Amebicides Maintenance: Note: See 08:30.92 for Metronidazole which is an inclusion	08:30:04
Antimalarials Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Hydroxychloroquine, Primaquine and Pyrimethamine Note: See Schedule B re: Laroium and Mallerone	08:30.08
Miscellaneous Antiprotozoals Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Atovaquone, Pentamidine Trimetrexate	08:30:92
Urinary Anti-Infectives Inclusions: All	08:36.00
ANTINEOPLASTIC DRUGS Maintenance: All <i>except</i> Exclusions: Mitotane, Procarbazine, Temozolomide, Thioguanine, Tretinoin and Vincristine	10:00.00
AUTONOMIC DRUGS	12:00.00
Parasympathomimetics Maintenance: All	12:04.00
Antiparkinsonian Drugs Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Ethopropazine, Procyclidine, Ropirole, Trihexyphenidyl	12:08:04
Antimuscarinics/Antispasmodics Inclusions: All	12:08:08
Sympathomimetic Agents – Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Salmeterol	12:12:00
Alpha-Adrenergic Agonists	12:12:04

Maintenance: Midodrine	
Beta-Adrenergic Agonists Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Formoterol & Terbutaline, Salmeterol .	12:12:08
Beta and Alpha-Adrenergic Agonists Inclusions: All	12:12:12
Sympatholytic Agents Maintenance: All	12:16:00
Skeletal Muscle Relaxants Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Dantrolene, Tizanidine	12:20:00
Miscellaneous Autonomic Drugs Inclusions: All	12:92:00
BLOOD FORMATION COAGULATION AND THROMBOSIS	20:00.00
Iron Preparations Inclusions: All Maintenance: All injectable iron	20:04:04
Anticoagulants Exclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Dalteparin sodium, Enoxaparin sodium	20:12:04
Platelet Aggregation Inhibitors Maintenance: All Note: Clopidogrel – see 92:00.00	20:12:18
Hematopoietic Agents Exclusions: All	20:16:00
Hemorrhologic Agents Maintenance: Pentoxifylline	20:24:00
Hemostatics Maintenance: Tranexamic Acid	20:26:18
CARDIOVASCULAR DRUGS	24:00.00
Antiarrhythmic Drugs Maintenance: All	24:04:04
Cardiotonic Agents Maintenance: Digoxin	24:04:08

Bile Acid Sequestrants Maintenance: All	24:06:04
Cholesterol Absorption Inhibitors Maintenance: All	24:06:05
Fibric Acid Derivatives Maintenance: All	24:06:06
HMG-CoA Reductase Inhibitors (Statins) Inclusions: All	24:06:08
Central Alpha-Agonists Maintenance: All	24:08:16
Direct Vasodilators Exclusion: Diazoxide Maintenance: Hydralazine , Minoxidil oral	24:08:20
Nitrates and Nitrites Maintenance: Isosorbide dinitrate, Nitroglycerine patch	24:12:08
Miscellaneous Vasodilating Agents Maintenance: All	24:12:92
Alpha-Adrenergic Blocking Agents Maintenance: All	24:20:00
Beta-Adrenergic Blocking Agents Limitations: Atenolol and Metoprenol – included for hypertension only Maintenance : Acebutolol, Bisoprolol, Carvedilol, Labetalol, Nadalol, Oxprenolol, Pindolol, Propranolol, Sotolol, Timolol	24:24:00
Dihydropyridines Maintenance : All	24:28:08
Miscellaneous Calcium Channel Blocking Agents Maintenance : All	24:28:92
ACE Inhibitors Inclusions: All	24:32:04
Angiotension II Receptor Antagonists Maintenance : All	24:32:08
Aldosterone Receptor Antagonists Maintenance : All	24:32:20

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM AGENTS

28:00.00

Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Agents Inclusions: All	28:08:04
Opiate Agonists Exclusions: All	28:08:08
Opiate Partial Agonists Exclusions: All	28:08:12
Miscellaneous Analgesics & Antipyretics Inclusions: All	28:08:92
Anticonvulsants-Barbiturates Exclusions: All	28:12:04
Anticonvulsants-Benzodiazepines Exclusions: All	28:12:08
Anticonvulsants-Hydantoins Maintenance: All	28:12:12
Anticonvulsants-Succinimides Maintenance: All	28:12:20
Miscellaneous Anticonvulsants Limitations - limited to post-herpetic neuralgia and herpetic pain, trigeminal neuralgia	28:12:92
Antidepressants Inclusions: Amitriptyline, Bupropion Exclusions: MAOI's – Phenelzine and Tranylcypromine Limitations: -Trazodone - may not be prescribed in a dosage more than 50mg. -SSRI's and SNRI's – Citalopram, Fluoxetine, Fluvoxamine, Mirtazepine, Paroxetine, Sertraline and Venlafaxine are inclusions BUT limited to patients over 18 years of age. NP can initiate first course, Reassessment by physician within 3 months. Maintenance: All other drugs in this sub-category	28:16:04
Antipsychotic Agents Maintenance: All	28:16:08
Amphetamines Exclusions: All	28:20:04
Miscellaneous Anorexigenic Agents, Respiratory & Cerebral Stimulants Exclusions: All	28:20:92
Anxiolytics, Sedatives and Hypnotics – Benzodiazepines Exclusions: All	28:24:08

Miscellaneous Anxiolytics, Sedatives and Hypnotics Inclusions: All	28:24:92
Antimanic Agents Maintenance: All	28:28:00
Selective Serotonin Agonists Maintenance: All	28:32:28
Miscellaneous Central Nervous System Agents Maintenance: All	28:92:00
CONTRACEPTIVES (NON-ORAL) Inclusions: All	32:00.00
DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS Inclusions: All	36:00:00
ELECTROLYTIC, CALORIC, AND WATER BALANCE	40:00.00
Alkalinizing Agents Maintenance: All	40:08.00
Replacement Preparations Inclusions: All	40:12.00
Calcium-Removing Resins Exclusions: All	40:17.00
Ion-Removing Agents Maintenance: All	40:18.00
Caloric Agents Exclusions: All	40:20.00
DIURETICS	40:28.00
Loop Diuretics Exclusion: Ethacrynic acid Limitations: Furosemide approved for use for mild to moderate heart failure, up to 7 day course, to maximum of 2 Rx in 3 month period Maintenance: Furosemide for long term use	40:28.08
Potassium-Sparing Diuretics Maintenance: All	40:28.16
Thiazide Diuretics Limitations: Hydrochlorothiazide for management of hypertension	40:28.20

Maintenance:-Spironolactone/HCT	
Thiazide Like Diuretics Exclusion: Chlorthalidone Maintenance: All others	40:28.24
Uricosuric Agents Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Limitations: Probenecid –restricted: for adjunctive therapy with antibiotics ; maintenance only for gout Maintenance: Sulfinpyrazone Note: For Allopurinol see 92:00.00	40:40.00
RESPIRATORY AGENTS	48:00.00
Antitussives Inclusions: All	48:08.00
Leukotriene Modifiers Inclusions: All . NP can initiate first course, Reassessment by physician within 3 months	48:10.24
Mast Cell Stabilizers Inclusions: All	48:10.32
EYE, EAR NOSE AND THROAT (EENT) PREPARATIONS	52:00.00
EENT - Antiallergic Agents Inclusions: All	52:02.00
EENT – Antibacterials Inclusions: All	52:04.04
EENT – Antivirals Exclusions: All	52:04.20
EENT – Corticosteroids Inclusions: All for nasal, inhaled and otic use Maintenance: All for ophthalmic use	52:08.08
EENT – Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory agents Maintenance: All for ophthalmic use	52:08.20
EENT – Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors Inclusions: for high-altitude travel Maintenance: All others	52:10.00
EENT- Miotics Maintenance: All	52:20.00
EENT – Mydriatics Maintenance: All	52:24.00

EENT – Mouthwashes and Gargles Inclusions: All	52:28.00
EENT – Vasoconstrictors Inclusions: All	52:32.00
Miscellaneous EENT Drugs Inclusions: Aluminum Acetate/Benzethonium Chloride Otic, all Methylcellulose-based ophthalmic preparations, all Petrolatum-based ophthalmic ointments, all Polyvinyl alcohol-based ophthalmic drops , all Sodium Chloride eye and nasal preparations, and all propylene glycol nasal preparations. Maintenance: All others	52:92.00
GASTROINTESTINAL DRUGS	56:00.00
Antacids and Adsorbents Inclusions: All	56:04.00
Antidiarrhea Agents Inclusions: All	56:08.00
Cathartics and Laxatives Inclusions: All	56:12.00
Cholelitholytic Agents Maintenance: All	56:14.00
Digestants Inclusions: All	56:16.00
Emetics Exclusions: All	56:20.00
Antihistamines (Anti-nauseants) Inclusions: All	56:22.08
5-HT3 Receptor Antagonists Maintenance: All	56:22.20
Miscellaneous Antiemetics Inclusions: All except Exclusions: Nabilone Limitations: Domperidone –inclusion for breastfeeding; otherwise Maintenance	56:22.92
Histamine H2-Antagonists Inclusions: All	56:28.12
Prostaglandins Inclusions: Misoprostol - with Arthrotec; - for pre-endometrial biopsy, IUD insertion or other GYN procedure Exclusions: All others	56:28.28

Protectants Maintenance: All	56:28.32
Proton-Pump Inhibitors Inclusions: All	56:28.36
Prokinetic Agents Inclusions: All	56:32.00
Anti-inflammatory Agents All maintenance	56:36.00
GOLD COMPOUNDS Maintenance: All	60:00.00
HEAVY METAL ANTAGONISTS Maintenance: All	64:00.00
HORMONES AND SYNTHETIC SUBSTITUTES	68:00.00
Adrenals Inclusions: Beclomethasone, Budesonide, and Fluticasone for inhalation Limitations: Oral Prednisone-ADULT - acute therapy- up to 14 days to a maximum of 2 courses in 3 months Oral Prednisone PEDIATRIC – - for CROUP- one dose only- if more is needed, need to consult MD - for other conditions- 5 day course, maximum once in three months Maintenance: All others	68:04.00
Androgens Exclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Danazol	68:08.00
Contraceptives Inclusions: All	68:12.00
Estrogens Inclusions: All	68:16.04
Estrogen Agonists/Antagonists Maintenance: All	68:16.12
Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibitors Maintenance: All	68:20.02
Biguanides Inclusions: All	68:20.04
Insulins Inclusions: All	68:20.08

Meglitinides Maintenance: All	68:20.16
Antidiabetic Agents – Sulfonylureas Maintenance: All	68:20.20
Thiazolidinediones Maintenance: All	68:20.28
Parathyroid Maintenance: All	68:24.00
Pituitary Maintenance: All	68:28.00
Progestins Inclusions: All	68:32.00
Thyroid Agents Inclusions: All <i>except</i> Maintenance: Thyroid	68:36.04
Antithyroid Agents Maintenance: All	68:36.08
SERUMS, TOXOIDS AND VACCINES Maintenance: All	80:00.00
SKIN AND MUCOUS MEMBRANE AGENTS (SMMA)	84:00.00
SMMA – Antibiotics Inclusions: All	84:04.04
SMMA – Antivirals Inclusions: All	84:04.06
SMMA – Antifungals Inclusions: All	84:04.08
SMMA – Scabicides and Pediculicides Inclusions: All	84:04.12
SMMA-Miscellaneous Local Anti-Infectives Inclusions: All	84:04.92

Maintenance: Alfuzosin, Azathioprine, Bromocriptine, Clopidogrel, Cyclosporin, Cyproterone/ethinyl estradiol, Finasteride, Flunarizine, Leflunomide, Mycophenolate, Nafarelin, Nedocromil, Octrotide, Pentosan, Pergolide, Tetrabenazine.

NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS

92:01.00

Inclusions: All

DEVICES

94:00.00

Inclusions: All

PHARMACEUTICAL AIDS

96:00.00

Inclusions: All *except*

Exclusion: Methadone

SCHEDULE B.

As Schedule A is based upon NIHB, and as NIHB does not list all drugs in NAPRA Schedule 1, this list will provide additional inclusion, maintenance and limitation drugs for NP Prescribing, in addition to Schedule A.

Inclusions- Drugs or Devices:

All Health Canada approved hormonal contraceptive drugs and devices not mentioned in 32:00.00 and 68.12.00

Cyclobenzaprine 10mg Tabs (Flexeril) – Muscle Relaxant

Etodolac PO - NSAID used in RA

Imiquimod (Aldara) - Genital Warts

Moxifloxacin (Avelox) - Antibiotic

Olopatadine (Patanol – Anti-allergy eye drop

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) – Oral Antiviral

Orphenadrine (Norflex) - Muscle relaxant

Limitations :

Atovaquone/Proguanil combination (Malarone), and

Mefloquine (Larium) - Antimalarials –

Note: Must write name of referring agency or person on prescription eg CDC, Travel clinic, MD

Ceftriaxone Injectable (Rocephen) -Injectable antibiotic- to treat STI's only.

Maintenance:

Bupirone (Buspar) – Anti-anxiety

Griseofulvin PO – Systemic antifungal

SCHEDULE C.

Nurse Practitioners may prescribe any medications listed in NAPRA schedule 2, 3 and Unscheduled without exclusion and limitations.

This Schedule includes, but is not limited to:

All Oral Iron Preparations.

All Insulins including newest agents Lispro and Levemir

All Vaccines given through the life span as per Immunization Schedule of the NWT

Cholera vaccine in Oral form (Dukoral)

Minoxidil 2% lotion for hair replacement

Nitroglycerin sublingual immediate release dosage form eg SL tablets and sprays

Tioconazole PV - Vulvovaginal Candidiasis