



## NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Create Positive Change in the Health of all British Columbians



Nurse Practitioners (NP) are advanced practice nurses who are educated at a Master's level and have advanced training. NPs must meet specific requirements to register as NPs and use the NP title.<sup>1</sup>



There are over 850 NPs in BC.<sup>2</sup>



In BC, NPs work in primary care clinics, acute care, emergency departments, ambulatory clinics, walk-in clinics, long-term care and hospice services.



NPs must complete annual licensing requirements and the credentialing process administered by the BC College of Nurses and Midwives. NPs must also carry liability protection administered by the Canadian Nurses Protective Society.



NPs provide primary care across the lifespan and work with all populations including Indigenous peoples, adults, older adults and children. NPs are committed to working with all patients and their families to improve health outcomes for all British Columbians.



### Nurse Practitioners:

- ✓ Assess, diagnose, and treat health issues.
- ✓ Refer to specialists such as a surgeon or cardiologist.
- ✓ Order medical imaging, bloodwork, and specialized tests.
- ✓ Prescribe medical and psychosocial treatments.
- ✓ Prescribe medications and write orders to be carried out by other healthcare providers (e.g. dietary orders, oxygen therapy, physical therapy, etc).
- ✓ Complete disability and extended health benefits forms.
- ✓ Work as autonomous providers and with healthcare teams in acute, primary, and residential settings.



NPs are committed to increasing access to health care in your community. NPs work and are accepting patients at local primary care clinics, Urgent and Primary Care Centres, First Nations community wellness centres and Community Health Centres across British Columbia.

### Sources

1. BC College of Nurses and Midwives Website (BCCNM) website ([bccnm.ca](http://bccnm.ca)).
2. BC College of Nurses and Midwives Registry, January 2023.

Last revised February 2023

