



COLLEGE OF NURSES
OF ONTARIO
ORDRE DES INFIRMIÈRES
ET INFIRMIERS DE L'ONTARIO



The College of Nurses of Ontario presents the Medication Learning Module An Overview.

Medication practice

Safe and ethical medication practice is an important part of client care.

Nurses must apply their knowledge, skills and judgment about the:

- client
- medication

Medication includes:

- prescription medication
- over-the-counter medication
- herbal preparations

Links to resources are on the module home page.



Safe and ethical medication practice is an important part of client care. As with any nursing procedure, administering, recommending or prescribing a medication requires knowledge, technical skills and judgment.


Medication administration is a continual process that goes beyond the task of giving a medication to a client. Nurses must apply their knowledge about the client and the medication when assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating their nursing care and the impact on the client.

In the *Medication* practice standard, and in this presentation, the term “medication” includes prescription medication, over-the-counter medication and herbal preparations.

Links to College practice documents and other resources, including related websites, referred to in this chapter can be found on the home page of the learning module.

Four standard statements

- Assessment
- Planning
- Implementation
- Evaluation



PRACTICE STANDARD

College of Nurses of Ontario
Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers de l'Ontario
100 The Standard of Care

Medication, Revised 2008

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The *Medication* practice standard is divided into four standard statements that describe broad principles that guide nursing process related to medication. These are:
assessment
planning
implementation and
evaluation.

Each of these standard statements will be addressed in the following chapters.

The standard statements have been listed in this order for clarity; however, the process of medication administration is not linear. For example, it is expected that the first component, assessment, will occur throughout the process.

What governs medication practice?

- *Medication* practice standard
- Workplace policies and procedures
- Relevant legislation



In addition to the standard statements, nurses also need to be familiar with their workplace policies and procedures and relevant legislation on medication administration.

Two pieces of legislation that govern nursing practice are the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991* and the *Nursing Act, 1991*. Also, depending on your practice setting, you may need to know other relevant legislation, for example, the *Long Term Care Homes Act* or the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*.

Quality practice

College practice standards apply to all nurses.

Nurses:

- must reflect on their role in improving their practice settings
- should advocate for policies that support the application of the *Medication* practice standard



The College's practice standards apply to all nurses, regardless of their role, job description or area of practice. As self-regulated professionals, nurses must reflect on their role in improving their practice settings, and should advocate for workplace policies and practices that support the application of the *Medication* practice document.

Medication learning module

You have now completed this chapter.

The screenshot displays the website for the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO). The page is titled "Medication" and is part of a learning module. The header includes the CNO logo, navigation links (HOME, WHAT IS CNO?, HOW WE PROTECT THE PUBLIC, BECOME A NURSE IN ONTARIO, LEARN ABOUT THE STANDARDS & GUIDELINES, MAINTAIN YOUR MEMBERSHIP), a search bar, and a language selector (English, Français). The main content area is divided into sections: "College Documents Magazines & Newsletters", "Educational Tools" (with sub-links for Abuse Prevention, Ask Practice, Learning Modules, Teleconferences, Practice Consultations, Practice Planning, Nursing Links, Nurse Practitioners, Outreach, and Volunteer Opportunities), "Medication" (introduction and objectives), "OBJECTIVES" (three numbered points), "FEEDBACK" (a link to provide feedback), "CHAPTERS" (a list of chapters with expand/collapse icons), and "ONLINE PARTICIPATION FORM" (a link to track website usage).

You have now completed this chapter. To continue the learning module, close this presentation, return to the Learning Centre and select the chapter of your choice.

If you have a question for a Practice Consultant, click on the link in the upper right-hand corner.