COLLEGE OF NURSES OF ONTARIO'S
Academic Reference Group

What is the Academic Reference Group?

The Academic Reference Group is made up of educators and representatives of the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) who share information and collaborate on nursing regulatory issues of mutual interest and concern.

The group includes 10 Ontario nursing educators who have volunteered to represent all nursing programs in the province.

The goal of the group is to provide an opportunity for discussion and collaboration on regulatory issues of importance to both educators and the College of Nurses of Ontario.

Welcome

Anne Marie Shin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Program Approval Update

Transition of Practical Nursing programs to new PA Approval framework
Practical Nursing (PN) diploma programs are moving to the new program approval process January 2020, starting with annual program review. PN programs have received their comprehensive review date. If there are any questions about the assigned comprehensive review date, please contact us.

Indicator 8 and 9 Development Update
Pilot program results on Indicators 8 (Recent graduates' perception of their readiness to practice) and 9 (Preceptor's perception of student's readiness to practice) were discussed. CNO is finalizing operational plans to integrate indicators 8 and 9 in the annual review data, starting January 2020. All nursing programs have been informed the annual review 2020 start date, and have received an invitation to a teleconference about the annual review process scheduled November 2019. Schools are encouraged to sign up.

Map the Gap reminder for new RPN Entry-to-Practice Competencies

The revised *Entry-to Practice Competencies for Ontario Registered Practical Nurses* are now available on **www.cno.org.** PN programs are required to submit curriculum mapping for the 14 new competencies by January 31, 2020. Resources have been provided to the schools. Online portal instructions for uploading documents will be provided to schools early November. Questions about this submission can be directed to Donna Rawlin, Education Consultant, at drawlin@cnomail.org.

Map the Gap Reminder for new RN Entry-to-Practice Competencies

The revised *Entry-to-Practice Competencies for Registered Nurses* are now available on **www.cno.org**. RN Programs are required to submit curriculum mapping and provide evidence of the integration of the identified 15 new competencies, due January 31, 2020. Online portal instructions for uploading documents will be provided to schools in early November. Questions about this submission can be directed to Irene Wu-Lau, Education Consultant, at IWu-Lau@cnomail.org

RPN and NP proposed scope of practice changes

In June, CNO received a letter from the Minister of Health proposing changes to the NP and RPN scope of practice. Changes in nursing scope of practice are intended to enable health care professionals to use their education and training more effectively to address patient needs in some health care settings. Proposed changes were discussed. CNO

looks forward to working with key stakeholders and the government with regards to these proposed changes.

RN Prescribing

Council-approved regulation is with government for review. CNO continues to have discussions with the Ministry and the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) about developing education for this role.

OCAS Electronic VCC Update

CNO provided an update about the electronic verification of course completion (VCC) project. Ontario College Application Service (OCAS) is ready to receive PN applicant requests using their electronic management system (eTMS). PN applicants will make requests through CNO's online applicant portal. CNO continues to work with OCAS and the Colleges to get all PN programs on-board by Summer 2020. Conversations to get university programs to use a similar system continue with COU and the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC). Next steps will be shared as details become available.

REx-PN Exam Update

CNO continues to work with British Colombia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP) to develop the new PN regulatory exam, assisted by our vendor, NCSBN. REx-PN has been announced as the new PN exam name. Practice analysis and ETP revisions have been completed, and a test blueprint is in development. CNO is consulting with PN educators to coordinate field testing volunteer opportunities for PN students in 2020 and 2021. Regular updates about REx-PN exam development and various volunteer opportunities will be communicated on **www.cno.org**.

Health Care Serial Killers

A presentation about health care serial killers was provided. The presentation covered CNO's literature review on health care serial killers, what CNO learned from participating in the LTC inquiry and changes CNO has made to-date to protect the public. This presentation was sent to ARG members, with links to disseminate this information within the academic community. We will continue to collaborate and communicate with our stakeholders, working together to prevent harm to patients.

Next meeting: January 27, 2020, 0930-1130 hrs.

Please share this update with other nursing educators at your school.