Français

Nursing Act, 1991

S.O. 1991, CHAPTER 32

Consolidation Period: From October 1, 2011 to the e-Laws currency date.

Last amendment: 2009, c. 26, s. 18.

Definitions

1. In this Act,
   “College” means the College of Nurses of Ontario; (“Ordre”)
   “Executive Director” means the Registrar; (“directeur général”)
   “member” means a member of the College; (“membre”)
   “profession” means the profession of nursing; (“profession”)
   “this Act” includes the Health Professions Procedural Code. (“la présente loi”) 1991, c. 32, s. 1.

Health Professions Procedural Code

2. (1) The Health Professions Procedural Code shall be deemed to be part of this Act. 1991, c. 32, s. 2 (1).

Terms in Code

(2) In the Health Professions Procedural Code as it applies in respect of this Act,
   “College” means the College of Nurses of Ontario; (“ordre”)
   “health profession Act” means this Act; (“loi sur une profession de la santé”)
   “profession” means the profession of nursing; (“profession”)
   “regulations” means the regulations under this Act. (“règlements”) 1991, c. 32, s. 2 (2).

Definitions in Code

(3) Definitions in the Health Professions Procedural Code apply with necessary modifications to terms in this Act. 1991, c. 32, s. 2 (3).

Scope of practice

3. The practice of nursing is the promotion of health and the assessment of, the provision of care for and the treatment of health conditions by supportive, preventive, therapeutic, palliative and rehabilitative means in order to attain or maintain optimal function. 1991, c. 32, s. 3.

Authorized acts

4. In the course of engaging in the practice of nursing, a member, other than a member described in section 5.1, is authorized, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his or her certificate of registration, to perform the following:
   1. Performing a prescribed procedure below the dermis or a mucous membrane.
   2. Administering a substance by injection or inhalation.
   3. Putting an instrument, hand or finger,
      i. beyond the external ear canal,
      ii. beyond the point in the nasal passages where they normally narrow,
      iii. beyond the larynx,
iv. beyond the opening of the urethra,
v. beyond the labia majora,
vi. beyond the anal verge, or
vii. into an artificial opening into the body. 1991, c. 32, s. 4; 2009, c. 26, s. 18 (1).

Note: On a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, section 4 is amended by the Statutes of Ontario, 2007, chapter 10, Schedule R, section 16 by adding the following paragraph:

4. Treating, by means of psychotherapy technique, delivered through a therapeutic relationship, an individual’s serious disorder of thought, cognition, mood, emotional regulation, perception or memory that may seriously impair the individual’s judgement, insight, behaviour, communication or social functioning.


Note: On a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, section 4 is amended by adding the following paragraph:

5. Dispensing a drug.

See: 2009, c. 26, ss. 18 (2), 27 (2).

Additional requirements for authorized acts

5. (1) A member shall not perform a procedure under the authority of section 4 unless,

(a) the performance of the procedure by the member is permitted by the regulations and the member performs the procedure in accordance with the regulations; or

(b) the procedure is ordered by a person who is authorized to do the procedure by section 5.1 of this Act or by the Chiroprody Act, 1991, the Dentistry Act, 1991, the Medicine Act, 1991 or the Midwifery Act, 1991. 1991, c. 32, s. 5 (1); 1997, c. 9, s 1.

Grounds for misconduct

(2) In addition to the grounds set out in subsection 51 (1) of the Health Professions Procedural Code, a panel of the Discipline Committee shall find that a member has committed an act of professional misconduct if the member contraves subsection (1). 1991, c. 32, s. 5 (2).

Authorized acts by certain registered nurses

5.1 (1) In the course of engaging in the practice of nursing, a member who is a registered nurse and who holds an extended certificate of registration in accordance with the regulations, is authorized, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his or her certificate of registration, to perform the following:

1. Communicating to a patient or to his or her representative a diagnosis made by the member identifying, as the cause of the patient’s symptoms, a disease or disorder.

2. Performing a procedure below the dermis or a mucous membrane.

3. Putting an instrument, hand or finger,
   i. beyond the external ear canal,
   ii. beyond the point in the nasal passages where they normally narrow,
   iii. beyond the larynx,
   iv. beyond the opening of the urethra,
   v. beyond the labia majora,
   vi. beyond the anal verge, or
   vii. into an artificial opening of the body.

4. Applying or ordering the application of a prescribed form of energy.

5. Setting or casting a fracture of a bone or dislocation of a joint.

6. Administering a substance, by injection or inhalation, in accordance with the regulations.

7. Administering a substance by injection or inhalation as provided for in subsection (2).
8. Prescribing, dispensing, selling or compounding a drug in accordance with the regulations. 2009, c. 26, s. 18 (3).

Note: On a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, subsection (1) is amended by adding the following paragraph:

9. Treating, by means of psychotherapy technique, delivered through a therapeutic relationship, an individual’s serious disorder of thought, cognition, mood, emotional regulation, perception or memory that may seriously impair the individual’s judgment, insight, behaviour, communication or social functioning.

See: 2009, c. 26, ss. 18 (4), 27 (2).

Further restrictions on authorized act

(2) A member shall not perform a procedure under paragraph 7 of subsection (1) unless the procedure has been ordered by a member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario or a member of any other College who is authorized to order the procedure. 2009, c. 26, s. 18 (3).

College continued

6. The College is continued under the name College of Nurses of Ontario in English and Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers de l’Ontario in French. 1991, c. 32, s. 6.

Executive Director

7. The Registrar shall be known as the Executive Director. 1991, c. 32, s. 7.

Classes of nurses

8. The members shall be divided into two classes, registered nurses and practical nurses. 1991, c. 32, s. 8.

Council

9. (1) The Council shall be composed of,

(a) twenty-one persons who are members elected in accordance with the by-laws, fourteen from among members who are registered nurses and seven from among members who are practical nurses; and

(b) at least 14 and no more than 18 persons appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council who are not,

(i) members,

(ii) members of a College as defined in the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, or

(iii) members of a Council as defined in the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991. 1991, c. 32, s. 9 (1); 1998, c. 18, Sched. G, s. 37 (1); 2009, c. 26, s. 18 (5).

Who can vote in elections

(2) Subject to the by-laws, every member who practises or resides in Ontario and who is not in default of payment of the annual membership fee is entitled to vote in an election of members of the Council. 1991, c. 32, s. 9 (2); 1998, c. 18, Sched. G, s. 37 (2).

President and Vice-President

10. (1) The Council shall have a President and two Vice-Presidents who shall be elected annually by the Council from among the Council’s members. 1991, c. 32, s. 10 (1).

Vice-Presidents

(2) One Vice-President shall be a registered nurse and one shall be a practical nurse. 1991, c. 32, s. 10 (2).

Restricted titles

11. (1) No person other than a member shall use the title “nurse”, “nurse practitioner”, “registered nurse” or “registered practical nurse”, a variation or abbreviation or an equivalent in another language. 2007, c. 10, Sched. B, s. 14 (1).

Exception

(2) Despite subsection (1), a person may use the title “Christian Science nurse” or “graduate nurse”, a variation or abbreviation or an equivalent in another language. 1991, c. 32, s. 11 (2).

Restricted title

(3) No person shall use the title “nursing assistant” or a variation or abbreviation of it. 1991, c. 32, s. 11 (3).

Same
(4) No person shall use the title “nurse anaesthetist”, a variation or abbreviation or an equivalent in another language. 2007, c. 10, Sched. B, s. 14 (2).

Exception

(4.1) Nothing in subsection (4) prevents a member from using a term, title or designation indicating a specialization of nursing associated with anaesthesia where the member does so in accordance with regulations made by the Council of the College under the Health Professions Procedural Code. 2007, c. 10, Sched. B, s. 14 (2).

Representations of qualification, etc.

(5) No person other than a member shall hold himself or herself out as a person who is qualified to practise in Ontario as a nurse, registered nurse, practical nurse or nurse practitioner or in a specialty of nursing. 2009, c. 26, s. 18 (6).

Exception

(6) Despite subsection (5), a person may hold himself or herself out as a Christian Science nurse. 2009, c. 26, s. 18 (6).

Definition

(7) In this section, “abbreviation” includes an abbreviation of a variation. 1991, c. 32, s. 11 (7).
(iv) setting prohibitions, including prohibitions respecting the substances that may be administered by injection or inhalation and the drugs that may be prescribed, dispensed, compounded and sold,

(v) requiring members to keep records respecting the administering of substances by injection or inhalation and the prescribing, dispensing, compounding and selling of drugs and providing for the contents of those records,

(vi) requiring members to provide the College or the Minister with reports respecting the administering of substances by injection or inhalation and the prescribing, dispensing, compounding and selling of drugs and providing for the contents of those reports;

(d) prescribing standards of practice respecting the circumstances in which registered nurses who hold an extended certificate of registration should consult with members of other health professions. 2009, c. 26, s. 18 (7).

Transitional

15. A person who, on the day before this Act comes into force, held a certificate issued under Part IV of the Health Disciplines Act shall be deemed to be the holder of a certificate of registration issued under this Act, subject to any term, condition or limitation to which the certificate was subject. 1991, c. 32, s. 15.


18. OMITTED (PROVIDES FOR COMING INTO FORCE OF PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT). 1991, c. 32, s. 18.


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