



NAME		NSCN REGISTRATION #	YEARS OF NURSING PRACTICE
PRACTICE SETTING		ROLE	

The purpose of the self-assessment tool is to help you determine how well you are meeting the *Standards of Practice for Registered Nurse Prescribers (2022)*. The *Standards of Practice for Registered Nurse Prescribers* are the minimal professional practice expectations for any registered nurse prescriber in any setting or role, approved by the Board or otherwise inherent in the nursing profession’ (*Nursing Act, 2019*).

This tool will assist you in determining how well you are meeting each standard and associated indicators in your practice while considering the needs of your client population and your practice setting. The self-reflection that you completed (e.g. FRAME) could be helpful with this process.

As you will note, there is not an option for “not applicable” as the standards are the minimal practice expectations for all RNs in Nova Scotia, regardless of practice setting, and therefore all indicators should apply.

Review the tables and rate yourself on a scale of 1-4 as to how consistently you are meeting each indicator. At the end of this process, select two indicators to add to your learning plan. You can choose indicators which you rated as 1 or 2, or indicators that you would like to further develop to enhance your practice.

Standard 1: Responsibility and Accountability

Registered nurse prescribers are accountable to prescribe (which includes medications, devices, and/or ordering screening and diagnostic tests) safely, competently, compassionately and ethically and are accountable to clients, the employer, the profession and the public.

INDICATOR	AM I MEETING THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS INDICATOR CONSISTENTLY?			
	NOT AT ALL		ALWAYS	
1.1 Select the medication/device and completes prescriptions legibly based on evidence informed practice (i.e. a decision support tool).	1	2	3	4
1.2 Determine when a decision support tool is applicable.	1	2	3	4
1.3 Prescribe only to clients with health conditions identified by the employer and for which they have the required competence.	1	2	3	4
1.4 Make prescribing decisions based on an assessment of the client.	1	2	3	4
1.5 Follow organizational, provincial and/or national reporting requirements, including, but not limited to the Canadian Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting Program.	1	2	3	4
1.6 Order and interpret screening and diagnostic tests relevant to the client's condition.	1	2	3	4
1.7 Use evidence-informed practice for appropriateness, safety and cost-effectiveness when ordering screening and diagnostic tests to support their prescribing decisions.	1	2	3	4
1.8 Use a systematic and timely process to receive, document, track and communicate the results of screening and diagnostic tests.	1	2	3	4
1.9 Adhere to provincial and/or agency standards/policies for ordering, documenting and reporting the results of screening and diagnostic tests and associated prescriptions.	1	2	3	4
1.10 Participate in NSCNs continuing competence program.	1	2	3	4

NOTES



Standard 2: Knowledge-Based Practice

Registered nurse prescribers apply specific evidence informed knowledge, skill and judgment to address the needs of clients with health conditions for which they are authorized to prescribe.

INDICATOR	AM I MEETING THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS INDICATOR CONSISTENTLY?			
	NOT AT ALL		ALWAYS	
2.1 Synthesize relevant knowledge to contribute to the plan of care through the prescription of medication(s) and/or device(s) and associated screening or diagnostic tests.	1	2	3	4
2.2 Attain, maintain, and demonstrate competencies relevant to the identified client health conditions as well as the medications and associated diagnostic tests for that condition.	1	2	3	4
2.3 Conduct thorough and accurate health history, physical assessment, and consultations.	1	2	3	4
2.4 Formulate appropriate diagnosis based on the client assessment to enable a prescribing decision within the nurses' area of competence.	1	2	3	4
2.5 Develop a plan of care in collaboration with the client and other health care team members as needed that includes information about the medications and/or devices, follow up plan and evaluation.	1	2	3	4
2.6 Select the medication and/ or device(s) based on knowledge of physiology, pathophysiology and pharmacotherapeutics.	1	2	3	4
2.7 Monitor and evaluate the client's response to the prescribed medication and/or device.	1	2	3	4
2.8 Clearly document the prescribing decision, including decisions based on results of screening and diagnostic tests.	1	2	3	4

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Standard 3: Client-Centred Relationships

Registered nurse prescribers establish professional and therapeutic relationships using a client-centered approach.

INDICATOR	AM I MEETING THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS INDICATOR CONSISTENTLY?			
	NOT AT ALL		ALWAYS	
3.1 Communicate with the client about the health assessment findings and/or diagnosis, including potential outcomes.	1	2	3	4
3.2 Advise clients of the appropriate use of prescription and non-prescription medication and/or devices that they prescribe and the required follow up.	1	2	3	4
3.3 Counsel clients on the reasons for ordering specific screening and diagnostic tests and the associated benefits and risks.	1	2	3	4
3.4 Confirm the client’s understanding of their plan of care related to their prescribed medications, device, screening and diagnostic tests	1	2	3	4
3.5 Prescribe in the best interest of the client without influence from factors such as financial support by pharmaceutical companies, marketing incentives or own interests.	1	2	3	4

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Standard 4: Professional Relationships and Leadership

Registered nurse prescribers collaborate and consult with health care team members and demonstrate leadership to deliver quality nursing and health care services.

INDICATOR	AM I MEETING THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS INDICATOR CONSISTENTLY?			
	NOT AT ALL		ALWAYS	
4.1 Collaborate with nurse practitioner(s), physician(s) and other members of the health care team when the needs of the client exceed their individual or professional scope of practice.	1	2	3	4
4.2 Consult with appropriate health care team members when another's professional expertise is required.	1	2	3	4
4.3 Establish appropriate methods for informing relevant health care team members of their mutual client's health conditions and treatment decisions.	1	2	3	4
4.4 Consult with and refer to an appropriate health care team member when there are indications of polypharmacy and medication(s) and/or device(s) may need to be discontinued.	1	2	3	4

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Standard 5: Individual Self-Regulation

Individual RN prescribers are accountable to regulate themselves in accordance with their legislated and individual scope of practice, scope of employment and requirements as defined by NSCN.

INDICATOR	AM I MEETING THE EXPECTATIONS OF THIS INDICATOR CONSISTENTLY?			
	NOT AT ALL		ALWAYS	
5.1 Do not prescribe and order diagnostic tests for themselves and/or family members.	1	2	3	4
5.2 Maintain an accurate, current employer and work contact information in the NSCN database.	1	2	3	4
5.3 Do not prescribe within a practice where they are self-employed.	1	2	3	4
5.4 Include their nursing designation and identifier (RN-AP) in their signature when working in the RN prescriber role.	1	2	3	4
5.5 Limit the use of the identifier only to situations in which they are working in the RN prescriber role.	1	2	3	4

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