

Draft Regulations

Draft Regulation

Medical Act
(chapter M-9)

Physicians — Professional activities that may be engaged in by a nurse

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation respecting certain professional activities that may be engaged in by a nurse, made by the board of directors of the Collège des médecins du Québec and appearing below, may be submitted to the Government for approval, with or without amendment, on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation allows some nurses to prescribe certain laboratory analyses and certain products, medications and dressings as regards wound care and public health, subject to compliance with the terms and conditions of training set forth in the Regulation.

The Regulation should have no impact on enterprises, including small and medium-sized businesses.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Linda Bélanger, Assistant Director, Services juridiques, Collège des médecins du Québec, 2170, boulevard René-Lévesque Ouest, Montréal (Québec) H3H 2T8; telephone: 1 888 633-3246 or 514 933-4441, extension 5362; fax: 514 933-3276; email: lbelanger@cmq.org

Any person wishing to comment on the matter is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to the Chair of the Office des professions du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 10^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5Z3. The comments will be forwarded to the Minister of Justice and may also be sent to the Collège des médecins du Québec and to interested persons, departments and bodies.

JEAN PAUL DUTRISAC,
*Chair of the Office des
professions du Québec*

Regulation respecting certain professional activities that may be engaged in by a nurse

Medical Act
(chapter M-9, s. 19, par. b)

DIVISION I PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this Regulation is to determine, among the professional activities that may be engaged in by physicians, those that may be engaged in by a nurse under certain prescribed conditions.

DIVISION II WOUND CARE

2. A nurse may, as part of the activity reserved to nurses to determine the treatment plan for wounds and alterations of the skin and teguments and provide the required care and treatment:

(1) prescribe the following laboratory analyses:

- a) pre-albumin and albumin;
- b) wound culture;

(2) prescribe the following products, medications and dressings associated with the treatment of wounds and alterations of the skin and teguments:

- a) products creating a skin barrier;
- b) topical medications, except for sulfadiazine and for those associated with dermatological or oncological treatment;
- c) dressings.

Before prescribing an analysis, the nurse must make sure that a recent result for that analysis is not otherwise available for this patient.

Before prescribing products, medications or dressings to a patient with comorbidity factors, the nurse must obtain the medical evaluation of the patient's state of health.

The nurse must communicate to the attending physician or specialized nurse practitioner who is responsible for the clinical follow-up of the patient's condition the result of the laboratory analyses prescribed and the names of the dressings, products or medications prescribed.

3. The nurse must consult a physician or team of professionals dedicated to wound care when the wound has not responded favourably within the normal or expected time for the care given.

The nurse must refer the patient to a physician when the signs and symptoms suggest any deterioration in the general condition of the patient.

DIVISION III PUBLIC HEALTH

4. As part of the national public health program made pursuant to the Public Health Act (chapter S-2.2), a nurse may:

(1) prescribe hormonal contraception, an IUD or emergency oral contraception, according to the protocol developed as part of an activity pursuant to the national public health program;

(2) prescribe a perinatal vitamin supplement and folic acid according to the level of risk of a neural tube defect;

(3) prescribe a medication for the treatment of pediculosis;

(4) prescribe a drug for smoking cessation except for varenicline and bupropion;

(5) prescribe a medication for the treatment of a gonococcal infection or a *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection in an asymptomatic person with a positive test result from screening, according to the protocol developed as part of an activity pursuant to the Public Health Act;

(6) prescribe a drug for the treatment of a gonococcal infection or a *Chlamydia trachomatis* infection in an asymptomatic person identified as a sexual partner of a person presenting either of these infections, according to the protocol developed as part of an activity pursuant to the Public Health Act.

DIVISION IV COMMON HEALTH ISSUES

5. A nurse may also engage in the following professional activities:

(1) prescribe a medication for the treatment of nausea and vomiting in pregnant women, except for incoercible vomiting;

(2) prescribe topical medication for the treatment of a fungal infection (candida) of the skin or mucosa of a baby and a nursing mother.

DIVISION V PRESCRIPTION WRITING STANDARDS

6. A nurse engages in the activities provided in sections 2, 4 and 5 in accordance with the provisions applicable to individual prescriptions provided in the Règlement sur les normes relatives aux ordonnances faites par un médecin (chapter M-9, r. 25).

DIVISION VI NURSES AFFECTED

7. To engage in the activities contemplated by this regulation, a nurse must satisfy one of the following conditions:

(1) be the holder of a bachelor's degree in nursing mentioned in section 1.17 of the Regulation respecting the diplomas issued by designated educational institutions which give access to permits or specialist's certificates of professional orders (chapter C-26, r. 2);

(2) be the holder of a bachelor's degree by accumulation of certificates, containing at least two certificates in nursing and have successfully completed at least 45 hours of university level training in wound care on the elements mentioned in Schedule I;

(3) be the holder of a *diplôme d'État* for a program of studies completed in France and of a permit issued by the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec in application of the Règlement sur la délivrance d'un permis de l'Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec pour donner effet à l'arrangement conclu par l'Ordre en vertu de l'Entente entre le Québec et la France en matière de reconnaissance mutuelle des qualifications professionnelles (chapter I-8, r. 13.1);

(4) be the holder of a permit issued by the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec in application of the Règlement sur les autorisations légales d'exercer la profession d'infirmière ou d'infirmier hors du Québec qui donnent ouverture au permis de l'Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec (chapter I-8, r. 7);

(5) be the holder of at least a bachelor's diploma in nursing and of a legal authorization to practice the profession of nurse outside Québec that gives access to a permit issued by the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec and have successfully completed university-level training of at least 45 hours in wound care on the elements mentioned in Schedule I.

8. The nurse must also hold an attestation issued by the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec attesting to successful completion of 2 hours of training in the following:

- (1) ethical considerations;
- (2) the procedure for prescribing analyses, products, medications and dressings related to the treatment of wounds and alterations of the skin and teguments and for prescribing medications for public health and for common health issues:
 - a) the prescription decision-making process;
 - b) writing a prescription;
 - c) follow-up with the physician or specialized nurse practitioner;
 - d) record-keeping.

DIVISION VII TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

9. Section 7 notwithstanding, a nurse may also engage in the activities contemplated by section 2 who on (*insert the date of coming into force of this regulation*):

- (1) is the holder of a Diploma of Collegial Studies in nursing care;
- (2) has practiced the profession for at least 8,400 hours in community health or long-term care during the seven years preceding the coming into force of this regulation;
- (3) has successfully completed at least 45 hours of training in wound care on the elements mentioned in Schedule I.

10. Section 7 notwithstanding, a nurse may also engage in the activities contemplated in sub-sections (1), (5) and (6) of section 4, who on (*insert the date of coming into force of this regulation*):

- (1) is the holder of a Diploma of Collegial Studies in nursing;
- (2) has practiced the profession for at least 8,400 hours in community health during the seven years preceding the date of coming into force of this regulation;
- (3) has completed at least 15 hours of training in the field of hormonal contraception given in application of the national public health program;

(4) has completed the required training in the field of sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections given in application of the national public health program.

11. The nurse contemplated in sections 9 or 10 must obtain the attestation of training mentioned in section 8 within twelve months of the coming into force of this regulation.

12. This regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day after the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

SCHEDULE I (s. 7, par. 2 and 5; s. 9, par. 3)

UNIVERSITY LEVEL TRAINING IN WOUND CARE

- i. anatomic-physiology of wounds and of alterations of the skin and teguments;
- ii. wound assessment;
- iii. wound classification;
- iv. classification and indications of the products, topical medications and dressings;
- v. debridement.

This training must be recognized by the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec and may have been acquired as part of a university degree in nursing or from a trainer who is a member of the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec.

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