

Standard of Practice: Intravenous Therapy

Standard of Practice

When performing intravenous therapy, naturopathic doctors must do so in a safe, competent and ethical manner.

Introduction

A complete list of restricted activities is found in the *Government Organization Act S.7.1*. Restricted activities authorized for naturopathic doctors are listed in the *Naturopaths Profession Regulation*. Naturopathic doctors are granted the restricted activity of administering a needle or cannula below the dermis for the purpose of providing intravenous therapy.

This standard is intended to outline how naturopathic doctors can provide safe, competent and ethical care, when performing intravenous therapy for a patient.

Definitions

Competence: the combined knowledge, skills, attitudes and judgement required to provide professional services, defined in the *Health Professions Act*.

Intravenous therapy: initiating, administering and terminating the application of substances for therapeutic benefit through intravenous infusion.

Patient medical record: an account or evidence of documented patient findings, assessments, diagnoses and treatments.

Restricted activities: indicated activities performed as part of providing a health service that require specific competencies and skills to be carried out safely. Restricted activities are not linked to any particular health profession and a number of regulated health professionals may perform a particular restricted activity. A complete list of restricted activities is found in the *Government Organization Act S.7.1*. Restricted activities authorized for naturopathic doctors are listed in the *Naturopaths Profession Regulation*.

Standard: an authoritative statement that describes the minimum required behaviour of every naturopathic doctor and is used to evaluate individual conduct.

Naturopathic doctors demonstrate this standard by:

1. only performing intravenous therapy with authorization by the Registrar and in accordance with any restrictions or provisions required by the Registrar;
2. ensuring that all required qualifications to perform intravenous therapy are current, in accordance with the **CNDA Continuing Competence Program Rules**;
3. having skills and knowledge of:
 - a) theory and principles of intravenous therapy,
 - b) assessment and diagnosis,
 - c) how to prepare intravenous solutions with acceptable osmolality,
 - d) calculations of appropriate rates of infusion,
 - e) treatment techniques, and
 - f) indications and contraindications;

4. properly documenting intravenous therapy treatments in the patient medical record in accordance with the **CNDA Standard of Practice: Records Keeping** and must include:
 - a) vital signs,
 - b) intravenous solution concentration and osmolality,
 - c) infusion rate,
 - d) intravenous administration site,
 - e) size and type of needle or cannula used,
 - f) state of needle or cannula when removed, and
 - g) state of patient upon conclusion of treatment;
5. having knowledge of and performing intravenous therapy in accordance with the following CNDA standards:
 - a) **CNDA Standard of Practice: General**,
 - b) **CNDA Standard of Practice: Informed Consent**,
 - c) **CNDA Standard of Practice: Duty to Report**,
 - d) **CNDA Standard of Practice: Clean Needle Technique**,
 - e) **CNDA Standard of Practice: Emergency Readiness**, and
 - f) **CNDA Standard of Practice: Infectious Disease Control and Prevention**;
6. complying with **CNDA Standard of Practice: Intravenous Chelation Therapy** when administering intravenous chelation therapy;
7. complying with **CNDA Standard of Practice: Ozone Therapy** when administering intravenous ozone;
8. complying with supervision requirements as set out in the *Naturopaths Profession Regulation*, when supervising another naturopathic doctor perform this restricted activity.

Expected Outcomes

Patients are satisfied that:

- naturopathic doctors perform intravenous therapy safely, competently and ethically.

Related Documents

Government Organization Act

Health Professions Act

Naturopaths Profession Regulation

CNDA Code of Ethics

CNDA Continuing Competence Program Rules

CNDA Standard of Practice: Records Keeping

CNDA Standard of Practice: General

CNDA Standard of Practice: Consent

CNDA Standard of Practice: Duty to Report

CNDA Standard of Practice: Clean Needle Technique

CNDA Standard of Practice: Emergency Readiness

CNDA Standard of Practice: Infectious Disease Control and Prevention

CNDA Standard of Practice: Intravenous Chelation Therapy

CNDA Standard of Practice: Ozone Therapy

