

# RN PRESCRIBING REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The following sections describe some of the components of the RN prescribing model that NSCN is accountable to the public to develop. These components are in place to promote safe, competent and ethical care by RN prescriber.

The role of NSCN is to make sure that Nova Scotians receive safe care from nurses. With the introduction of the Registered Nurse (RN) prescriber role in Nova Scotia, NSCN has developed this framework to ensure RN prescribers understand what is expected of them and are prepared to provide safe, competent and ethical care to patients in Nova Scotia.

## SETTING THE STANDARDS

### WHY ARE STANDARDS FOR RN PRESCRIBERS IMPORTANT TO THE PUBLIC?

Describes the care to be expected from an RN prescriber

Sets the broad limits of the RN prescriber role – what they can and cannot do

Used as a performance measure if there are complaints or concerns about the care received

### WHY ARE STANDARDS FOR RN PRESCRIBERS IMPORTANT TO THE NURSE?

Sets the practice expectations of RN prescribers

Provides a guide for how an RN prescriber should provide care

Sets out the professional knowledge, skills and judgement needed to prescribe safely.

## ESTABLISHING THE COMPETENCIES

### WHY ARE RN PRESCRIBER COMPETENCIES IMPORTANT TO THE PUBLIC?

Informs the public of the knowledge, skills and judgment that an RN prescriber must have after completing an RN Prescribing educational program.

### WHY ARE RN PRESCRIBER COMPETENCIES IMPORTANT TO THE NURSE?

Describes the knowledge, skills and judgment required of an RN prescriber.

## REGISTERING RN PRESCRIBERS

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO THE PUBLIC TO HAVE REGISTRATION PROCESSES FOR RN PRESCRIBERS?

Demonstrates that every RN prescriber has met a set of consistent requirements before being able to safely prescribe medications and order lab tests.

Provides a public registry which lists RNs who are permitted by the regulator to prescribe medications and order lab tests in Nova Scotia.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO THE NURSE TO HAVE REGISTRATION PROCESSES FOR RN PRESCRIBERS?

Confirms for the nurse that they have met the requirements to become an RN prescriber.

