

BCCNM Explained: Our Role and Responsibility

Are you unsure about BCCNM's role in nursing? Don't worry, you're in the right place! This module will help you understand BCCNM's role in nursing practice and understand this responsibility. It's not just about regulation, it's about ensuring safe, competent, and ethical care in service of the college's public protection mandate.

In this short module you will learn about the role of BCCNM in nursing practice, learn the difference between the regulator, association, and union, define some key terms, and find out how BCCNM can support you in your practice.

Note: This module is designed specifically for nurses. If you're a midwife, please refer to the separate modules created for midwifery practice.

Estimated time: 10 mins

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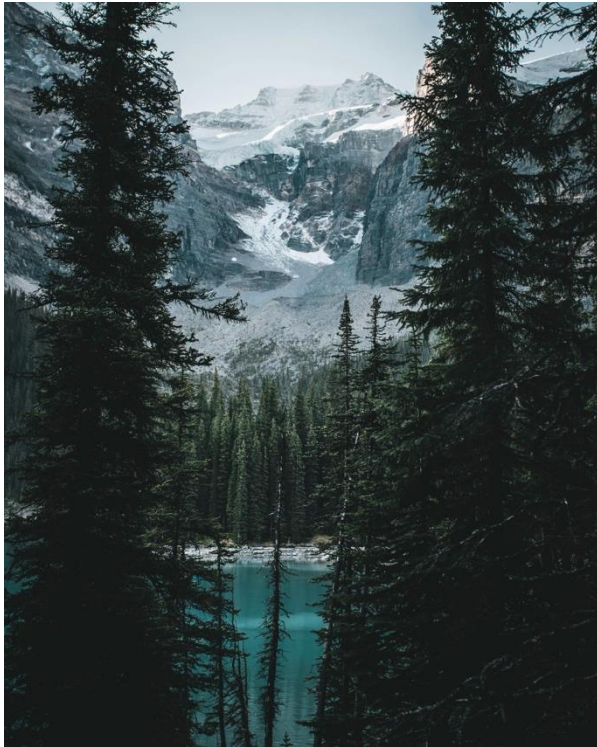
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Territorial acknowledgement



We acknowledge the rights and title of the First Nations whose collective unceded territories encompass the land base colonially known as British Columbia. We give specific thanks to the hən[ɡq[ɡəmin[ɡəm[ɡ speaking peoples the x[ɡməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam) and sel'il'witulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations and the Skwxwú7mesh-ulh Sníchim speaking Peoples the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), on whose unceded territories BCCNM's office is located. We also give thanks for the medicines of these territories and recognize that laws, governance, and health systems tied to these lands and waters have existed here for over 9000 years.

We also acknowledge the unique and distinct rights, including rights to health and wellness, of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples from elsewhere in Canada who now live in British Columbia. As leaders in the settler health system, we acknowledge our responsibilities to these rights under international, national, and provincial law.

What is the BC College of Nurses & Midwives (BCCNM)

What is BCCNM and why does it matter

BCCNM stands for the British Columbia College of Nurses & Midwives. Its legal mandate under the *Health Professions Act/Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPA/HPOA)* is to protect the public by ensuring nurses and midwives provide safe, competent, and ethical care. Think of BCCNM as the safety net that ensures high standards for client care.

BCCNM's job is to ensure nurses and midwives practice safely and meet required standards. They regulate the professions and ensure nurses and midwives have the right skills and knowledge to care for the public.



At BCCNM, dedicated professionals work to regulate nursing practice, ensuring that all nurses meet the highest standards of safety, competence, and ethical care for the well-being of the public.

Myth or reality?

We know there are misconceptions about BCCNM—our role in the health-care system. In this activity, see if you can identify common misconceptions about the college.

BCCNM's role is primarily disciplinary, punishing nurses who make mistakes.

Myth: BCCNM is dedicated to public safety through prevention and professional growth. It sets and enforces requirements for nurses and midwives to ensure they meet practice standards. The organization also provides guidance on ethical issues, professional standards, and best practices, focusing on support rather than punishment.

BCCNM is an independent, self-regulating body under provincial law.

Reality: BCCNM is an independent, self-regulating body under provincial law, separate from government influence. BCCNM operates within the *Health Professions Act (HPA)* and *Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA)* and regulates nursing and midwifery practice to protect the public, ensuring safe, competent, and ethical care.

Canadian nursing regulators are all the same, and they apply the same rules and standards across the country.

Myth: Nursing regulatory bodies vary by jurisdiction (province, territory), and each has its own laws, standards, and scope of practice. While there may be similarities, nurses must be familiar with the specific regulations in their practice jurisdiction, as each regulatory body tailors its standards to local legal and health-care contexts.



Building an anti-racist culture

BCCNM confronts Indigenous-specific racism in our health-care system and workplace and upholds the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) towards cultural safety and humility. We apply an anti-racist lens to our organizational processes, communications, standards, interactions, and daily operations, and promote a “speak-up” culture.



[BCCNM’s Commitment to Action: 2023–24: Redressing Harm to Indigenous Peoples in the Health-care System](#)

BCCNM's core functions

BCCNM's core functions help to ensure the safety and competence of nursing and midwifery practices. These functions are designed to uphold high standards of care, protect the public, and foster an environment of cultural safety and humility. By understanding these core functions, nurses can gain insight into BCCNM's role in ensuring safe, competent, and ethical care. Flip each card to learn more.



Setting standards

Setting standards: BCCNM sets standards for nursing and midwifery practice to make sure care is delivered competently, ethically, and safely.



Licensing

Licensing: Nurses and midwives must be registered with BCCNM (have a licence) to practice in B.C. A licence ensures they meet the necessary qualifications and are legally authorized to practice.



Inquiry, discipline, monitoring

Inquiry, discipline and monitoring: If a nurse or midwife doesn't meet standards, BCCNM investigates concerns and takes action to protect the public from unethical or unsafe practice.



Education program
review

Education program review:

BCCNM checks that nursing and midwifery programs in B.C. meet the necessary standards to prepare graduates for safe practice.



Quality Assurance

Quality assurance (QA):

BCCNM's QA program helps nurses and midwives reflect on their practice and make improvements. Participation is mandatory and helps ensure ongoing professional growth.



Standards support

Standards support:

BCCNM offers guidance to nurses and midwives on how to apply standards, especially in new or tricky situations.

BCCNM bylaws



Bylaws are essential documents that outline the fundamental rules and regulations governing BCCNM and your nursing practice. They define the operational framework for BCCNM and your professional responsibilities, including permissible titles.

Additionally, under the new *Health and Occupations Act (HPOA)*, bylaws will clarify eligibility criteria for nursing practice and establish specific practice standards, ensuring that all practitioners have the necessary qualifications to provide safe and competent care.

BCCNM seeks to ensure **unshakeable confidence** in nursing and midwifery care and **protect the public** by regulating nurses and midwives to ensure they provide care that is safe, competent, ethical, and meets the standards that the college sets.

Check your understanding

Which of following is *not* one of BCCNM's core functions?

- a) Licensing nurses and midwives
- b) Setting practice standards
- c) Providing direct client care
- d) Monitoring and discipling unsafe practice

What is one way BCCNM promotes cultural safety and anti-racism in its operations?

- a) By providing direct care to Indigenous communities
- b) By confronting Indigenous-specific racism in the health-care system
- c) By creating a separate regulatory body for Indigenous nurses
- d) By offering financial support to Indigenous health-care workers

In the next lesson, we'll learn the difference between the roles of the regulator, the nursing association, and the nursing unions.

Regulator, association, union



Who does what?

Understanding the distinct roles of the regulator, association, and nursing unions is crucial for anyone involved in the nursing profession. Each entity plays a vital part in shaping the landscape of nursing practice. Here's a breakdown of their responsibilities and functions:

	Regulator	Association	Unions
Name	BC College of Nurses & Midwives (BCCNM)	Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC (NNPBC)	BC nursing unions: BCNU, HEU
Purpose or mandate	Protects the public by ensuring nurses and midwives meet required standards for safe, competent, and ethical care through a legislated legally binding mandate.	Represents the voice of nursing in B.C. to advance the profession , the interests of nurses, and influence health and social policy.	Protects and advances the health, safety, social and economic well-being of nurses , the profession and communities.

	Regulator	Association	Unions
Responsibilities	Sets and enforces standards; sets entry- level requirements, promotes safe, competent care through quality assurance requirements; addresses concerns about nurses and nursing care.	Guides the professional members and the government on relevant issues such as using evidence- based initiatives, policies, and advancement of the professions.	Negotiates employment terms, provides professional development opportunities, and advocates for better working conditions for nurses.
Registration Licensure	Required to be registered (a licensee) with BCCNM to practice.	Encouraged but not required to be a member.	Membership is part of a legally binding employment contract with many health- care organizations. Not all employers have a contract with a union so not all nurses belong to a union.

The table above highlights the distinct roles and responsibilities of key organizations involved in the nursing profession. Regulators like BCCNM ensure public safety through standards and licensure, while associations such as NNPBC, advocate for the profession and influence policy. Unions focus on protecting nurses' rights, negotiating employment terms, and improving working conditions.

Check your understanding

Match these functions to the correct organization. You can find the answer key at the end of the module.

Union

Ensures nurses meet required standards for safe, competent, and ethical care.

Association

Advances the profession in the interests of nurses.

Regulator

Advocates for better working conditions for nurses.

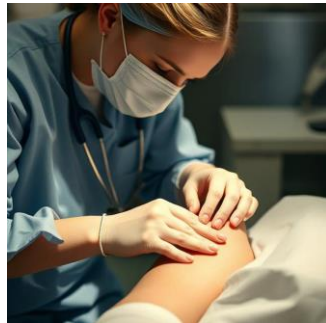
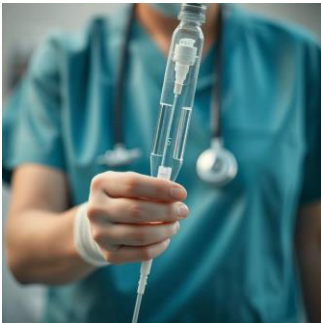
Identify each organization based on who would typically handle the issue or responsibility described: Regulator (BCCNM), Association (NNPBC), or Union (BCNU, HEU),

Issue/Responsibility	Organization	Issue/Responsibility	Organization
Supporting nurses in quality assurance and continuing competency requirements		Advancing and influencing health system improvements across B.C	
Investigating a concern about unsafe or unethical nursing care		Developing policies that influence the future of nursing in B.C.	
Developing policies that influence the future of nursing in B.C.		Supporting safe working conditions, such as safe staffing levels	
Providing input on provincial health policy and system changes		Ensuring nurses are registered and licensed to practice in B.C.	
Negotiating salary increases and benefits for nurses		Providing support and learning resources related to standards	
Providing legal support during a workplace grievance		Representing nurses during disciplinary meetings with an employer	
Ensuring nurses are registered and licensed to practice in B.C.		Hosting nursing leadership webinars and mentoring programs	

In the next lesson, we'll explore how BCCNM regulates nursing practice.

Lesson 4 of 7

How BCCNM regulates nursing practice



Standards, limits, and conditions

One way BCCNM regulates nursing practice is by setting standards, limits, and conditions on practice. This helps ensure that nurses practice within their legal scope and provide safe, competent, and ethical care. Standards, limits, and conditions complement nursing regulations by setting expected levels of performance and restrictions or requirements on practice that all nurses must meet.

Standards

Standards are legal requirements for nurses, setting the expected behaviours and level of performance for practice against which actual behaviour and performance can be compared.

Standards set expectations that can be applied based on professional judgment and the context of a nurse's practice. For example, a documentation standard might emphasize



accuracy, completeness, and professional judgment.

Whenever possible, BCCNM uses standards (rather than limits and conditions) to provide direction for practice.

Professional vs. practice standards

Nursing standards fall into two categories. Flip each card to learn more.

Professional/ethical standards

Professional/ethical standards provide an overall framework for nursing in B.C. They set out minimum performance levels that nurses are required to achieve.

Practice standards

Practice standards provide requirements related to specific aspects of nurses' practice. These standards complement the Professional Standards and provide additional information on specific topics.

Limits and conditions

Limits and conditions play a crucial role in defining the scope of practice for nurses. Understanding these concepts is essential for meeting regulatory requirements and delivering safe, competent, and ethical care. This section explores the key aspects of limits and conditions, providing clarity on their definitions and practical applications in the nursing profession.

Limits

Limits are restrictions, set by BCCNM or legislation, on the scope of practice of nurses that outline what nurses are not permitted to do. You must meet all limits. You cannot pick and choose which limits to follow.

An example of a limit: RNs do not carry out endotracheal intubation. Understanding and following these limits ensures that nursing practice remains safe and within the boundaries of nursing scope of practice.

Conditions

Conditions outline the specific requirements that must be met to perform certain activities within nursing practice. Like limits, conditions are mandatory and cannot be selectively followed. For instance, licensed practical nurses (LPNs) must complete additional education before they can perform peritoneal dialysis.

These conditions are designed to ensure that nurses are adequately prepared and qualified to carry out specialized tasks safely and effectively.

Other important terms to know

Knowing key terms like additional education, advanced activities, competence, and team approach is essential for safe nursing practice. These terms help nurses clearly understand their responsibilities, recognize the limits of their scope, and identify when they need more training or support.

Whether you're deciding if you need additional education to take on a new activity, or working with your team to plan client care, having a solid understanding of these concepts helps you make informed, accountable decisions. It also ensures you're practising in a way that protects the public and meets the standards set by BCCNM.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	ADVANCED ACTIVITIES	COMPETENCE	TEAM NURSING APPROACH – LPN PRACTICE	TEAM APPROACH LPN PRACICE
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Additional education is structured learning nurses undertake to attain the competencies to carry out a specific activity.

It's not the same as regular learning—this is structured education that **builds on what nurses already know**. It includes theory and application to practice with an evaluation at the end.



The following activities, on their own, would not be considered additional education. However, they may be included as part of structured program. When combined with other learning activities, they can contribute to helping a nurse achieve the required competence:

- Watching a video on YouTube
- The 'see one, do one' training approach where you watch someone do something and then you do it
- Reading an article
- Watching an online tutorial

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	ADVANCED ACTIVITIES	COMPETENCE	TEAM NURSING APPROACH – LPN PRACTICE	TEAM APPROACH LPN PRACTICE
<p>Advanced activities are activities within a nurse's scope of practice but require additional education, training and/or clinical experience to build on the foundational knowledge, skills, attitudes, and judgment attained during entry-level nursing education.</p>				



ADDITIONAL EDUCATION	ADVANCED ACTIVITIES	COMPETENCE	TEAM NURSING APPROACH – LPN PRACTICE	TEAM APPROACH – LPN PRACTICE
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Competence is your ability to use your knowledge, skills, attitudes, and judgment together to provide safe, competent, and ethical care in your specific nursing role. It's about **knowing what to do, how to do it, and when to do it** — and applying that in real-life situations to give the best care possible.

ADDITIONAL
EDUCATIONADVANCED
ACTIVITIES

COMPETENCE

TEAM NURSING
APPROACH -
LPN PRACTICETEAM APPROACH
LPN PRACTICE

When a client's nursing care needs include activities outside the LPN's scope of practice or individual competencies, the LPN seeks out the RN or RPN to jointly review the client's care needs and determine how the care needs will be met between them. The team nursing approach is specific to LPN practice as it may be a condition in LPN practice.

ADDITIONAL
EDUCATIONADVANCED
ACTIVITIES

COMPETENCE

TEAM NURSING
APPROACH - LPN
PRACTICETEAM
APPROACH
LPN PRACTICE

Like the team nursing approach, when a client's care needs include activities **outside the LPN's scope of practice or individual competencies**, the LPN **seeks out other members of the health-care team** to jointly review the client's care needs and determine how they will be met. The team approach is specific to LPN practice as it may be a condition in LPN practice.



Check your understanding

What is the primary purpose of setting standards, limits, and conditions in nursing practice?

- a) To ensure nurses provide safe, competent, and ethical care
- b) To replace professional judgment with strict rules for all nursing activities
- c) To provide flexibility for nurses to adapt to any situation without restrictions
- d) To allow nurses to independently determine their scope of practice

Which of the following statements about additional education are correct? Select all that apply.

- a) Additional education includes structured learning with theory, application to practice, and evaluation.
- b) Watching a YouTube video alone qualifies as additional education.
- c) Additional education builds on foundational nursing knowledge and prepares nurses for advanced activities.
- d) Additional education only needs to involve knowing theoretical concepts, not practical application.
- e) Additional education helps nurses apply knowledge, skills, attitudes, and judgment to provide safe and ethical care.

Next, we'll explore how you can maintain an accountable nursing practice.

Lesson 5 of 7

Accountable practice: Licensing and Quality Assurance

The importance of nursing licensing

Nursing licensing (registration) is a critical safeguard to ensure that all practising nurses meet standardized qualifications and competencies. It plays a vital role in protecting client safety by

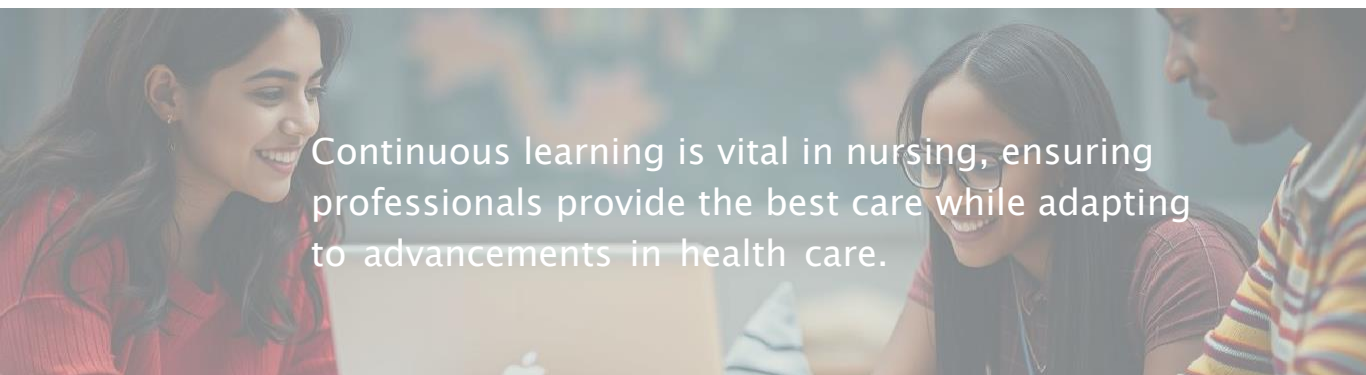
verifying that nurses possess the qualifications, education, and competencies to deliver safe, competent, and ethical care.

In British Columbia, licensing with BCCNM is mandatory for anyone practising as a nurse. This process ensures that professionals meet established standards and are legally authorized to provide health-care services.

Why a license?

Licensing plays a crucial role in the nursing profession, serving as a foundation for ensuring that nurses are equipped to deliver safe and competent care. The following highlight how licensure contributes to the overall effectiveness and integrity of nursing practice:

- ♦ Ensures nurses have the qualifications, education, and competencies to provide safe, competent, and ethical care.
- ♦ Holds nurses accountable to BCCNM's standards and ongoing professional development requirements.



BCCNM's Quality Assurance Program

BCCNM is legally required to administer a Quality Assurance (QA) Program. Participation in the QA program is mandatory and ensures that nurses meet high standards of practice. The program includes various components such as self-assessment, peer feedback, and ongoing professional development activities. These measures are designed to uphold public trust and ensure that nurses deliver safe, competent, and ethical care. By engaging in the QA program, nurses demonstrate their commitment to maintaining excellence in their field.

BCCNM's QA program:

- Supports nurses and midwives in enhancing their professional performance.
- Highlights areas for improvement and offers resources for professional growth.
- Promotes client safety by encouraging best practices in care delivery.
- Encourages a culture of accountability and ongoing improvement within the nursing profession.

Continuous learning in nursing is essential for providing safe, competent, and ethical care. By investing in ongoing education, nurses equip themselves with the latest knowledge and skills to meet clients' evolving needs. This commitment to improvement upholds high standards of practice and fosters a culture of accountability and integrity, ultimately benefiting those they serve.



How BCCNM can support you and your practice

Never hesitate to reach out for guidance when faced with uncertainty. Support and resources are always available to help you navigate challenges and uphold the highest standards of care.

BCCNM is not just a regulatory body; it is a valuable resource for nurses. By providing clear standards and access to standards support and learning resources, BCCNM helps ensure

that you can deliver safe and competent care. Whether you need advice on ethical dilemmas, clarification on standards, or resources to enhance your understanding, BCCNM is there to assist you. Our commitment to fostering a culture of learning and accountability makes us an essential partner in your professional career.

Self-assessment and feedback —

Self-assessment and feedback are essential tools for professional growth. By engaging in self-assessments, individuals can identify their strengths and areas for improvement, setting clear and actionable development goals. Peer feedback further enhances this process by providing diverse perspectives and constructive insights.

These practices not only foster personal accountability but also encourage continuous learning and growth. Incorporating regular self-assessments and seeking feedback can lead to a more reflective and effective professional practice.

Standards consultations —

Standards consultations provide clarity and guidance on professional expectations and best practices. They are particularly valuable when navigating complex situations or addressing questions about the scope of practice. These consultations ensure that nurses are aligned with established standards and regulations.

By participating in standards consultations, individuals can gain confidence in their decision-making and enhance their ability to apply standards effectively in their work. This support is crucial for maintaining high-quality and ethical practices.

Learning resources —

Learning resources such as modules, videos, and case studies are designed to support the application of standards in real-world scenarios. These resources provide practical examples and insights that help bridge the gap between theory and practice. Additionally, monthly newsletters keep nurses informed about updates and changes that may impact their work.

By using these resources, individuals can stay current with health-care developments and continuously improve their skills. This commitment to ongoing education ensures that nurses remain competent and effective in their roles.

You've gained valuable insights throughout this module.
Now, let's summarize the key takeaways and test your
knowledge with a final quiz.

Lesson 6 of 7

Quiz

Welcome to the quiz section. This is an opportunity to assess your understanding of the key concepts covered throughout the module. There are five questions designed to evaluate your knowledge. To successfully complete the quiz, aim for a score of 80% or higher.

Question

01/05

What is a key difference between a regulator, an association, and a union in the context of health care?

- a) A regulator enforces standards, while an association provides professional development, and a union advocates for nurses' rights.
- b) A union enforces standards, while a regulator provides professional development, and an association advocates for nurses' rights.
- c) An association enforces standards, while a union provides professional development, and a regulator advocates for nurses' rights.
- d) All three—regulator, association, and union—perform the same functions in health care.

*Question***02/05**

Match each regulatory function of BCCNM with the most appropriate description.

Setting standards	Investigating and addressing concerns about unsafe or unethical nursing care.
Inquiry, discipline, and monitoring	Providing guidance to nurses on how to apply standards.
Quality Assurance	Setting and enforcing standards for ethical and competent nursing practice.
Licensing/Registration	Defining the qualifications and skills needed to enter the nursing profession.
Education Program Review	Supporting nurses to reflect on their practice and make improvements.
Standards Support	Working with institutions to ensure nursing education programs meet requirements to prepare nurses for entry to practice.

*Question***03/05**

Which organization is responsible for protecting the public by ensuring nurses meet required standards for safe, competent, and ethical care?

- a) BC College of Nurses & Midwives (BCCNM)
- b) Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC (NNPBC)
- c) BC Nurses' Union (BCNU)
- d) Health Employees' Union (HEU)

*Question***04/05**

Why is nursing licensure important? Select all that apply.

- a) It holds nurses accountable to meet required standards for safe and competent care.
- b) It is a legal requirement to practice nursing in many jurisdictions.
- c) It allows nurses to practice without following regulations.
- d) It protects the public by holding nurses accountable for safe and ethical practices.
- e) It guarantees higher salaries for licensed nurses.

*Question***05/05**

What is the primary purpose of the quality assurance program implemented by BCCNM?

- a) To negotiate better working conditions and salaries for nurses.
- b) To ensure the public receives safe, competent, and ethical care, by supporting nurses to engage in ongoing reflection and development.
- c) To represent the voice of nursing and influence health policy.
- d) To provide legal support during workplace grievances.

Lesson 7 of 7

Summary

This module provided an overview of BCCNM and its regulatory role in nursing. We explored how BCCNM ensures safe, competent, and ethical care while distinguishing its responsibilities from those of associations and unions. Additionally, we examined licensure and key terms essential to understanding the regulatory framework. Here are some key takeaways:

- BCCNM's mandate is to protect the public by ensuring that nurses and midwives provide safe, competent, and ethical care.
- Standards are the minimum expected level of performance that nurses must meet.
- BCCNM uses various strategies, like licensing, quality assurance programs, and reviewing education programs to regulate the nursing and midwifery professions.
- BCCNM offers many resources to help you succeed in your practice.

Your thoughts, please

To help us create resources that meet your needs, please complete the 2-minute survey below to let us know what you think. Your feedback will help us improve this and future resources we create for our learners. Thanks in advance!

[Take the survey](#)

Answer key

Page 9

Which of following is *not* one of BCCNM's core functions?

- a) Licensing nurses and midwives
- b) Setting practice standards
- c) Providing direct client care - Providing direct client care is not a core function of BCCNM. Their focus is on regulation, including licensing, setting practice standards, and ensuring public safety.
- d) Monitoring and disciplining unsafe practice

What is one way BCCNM promotes cultural safety and anti-racism in its operations?

- a) By providing direct care to Indigenous communities
- b) By confronting Indigenous-specific racism in the health-care system - BCCNM actively confronts Indigenous-specific racism and applies an anti-racist lens to its processes, communications, and standards to promote cultural safety and humility.
- c) By creating a separate regulatory body for Indigenous nurses
- d) By offering financial support to Indigenous health-care workers

Page 11 and 12

Match these functions to the correct organization.

Union	Advocates for better working conditions for nurses.
Association	Advances the profession in the interests of nurses.
Regulator	Ensures nurses meet required standards for safe, competent, and ethical care.

Identify each organization: Regulator (BCCNM), Association (NNPBC), or Union (BCNU, HEU), based on who would typically handle the issue or responsibility described.

Issue/Responsibility	Organization	Issue/Responsibility	Organization
Supporting nurses in quality assurance and continuing competency requirements	BCCNM	Advancing and influencing health system improvements across B.C	NNPBC
Investigating a concern about unsafe or unethical nursing care	BCCNM	Developing policies that influence the future of nursing in B.C.	NNPBC
Developing policies that influence the future of nursing in B.C.	NNPBC	Supporting safe working conditions, such as safe staffing levels	BCNU/HEU
Providing input on provincial health policy and system changes	NNPBC	Ensuring nurses are registered and licensed to practice in B.C.	BCCNM
Negotiating salary increases and benefits for nurses	BCNU/HEU	Providing support and learning resources related to standards	BCCNM
Providing legal support during a workplace grievance	BCNU/HEU	Representing nurses during disciplinary meetings with an employer	BCNU/HEU
Ensuring nurses are registered and licensed to practice in B.C.	BCCNM	Hosting nursing leadership webinars and mentoring programs	NNPBC

Page 17 and 18

What is the primary purpose of setting standards, limits, and conditions in nursing practice?

- a) To ensure nurses provide safe, competent, and ethical care - This is correct. Standards, limits, and conditions are designed to ensure nurses deliver care that is safe, competent, and ethical.
- b) To replace professional judgment with strict rules for all nursing activities
- c) To provide flexibility for nurses to adapt to any situation without restrictions
- d) To allow nurses to independently determine their scope of practice

Which of the following statements about additional education are correct? Select all that apply.

- a) Additional education includes structured learning with theory, application to practice, and evaluation.
- b) Watching a YouTube video alone qualifies as additional education.
- c) Additional education builds on foundational nursing knowledge and prepares nurses for advanced activities.
- d) Additional education only needs to involve knowing theoretical concepts, not practical application.
- e) Additional education helps nurses apply knowledge, skills, attitudes, and judgment to provide safe and ethical care.

Additional education is structured learning that builds on foundational knowledge, and increases a nurse's ability to apply knowledge, skills, and judgment to provide safe and ethical care.

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Question

01/05

What is a key difference between a regulator, an association, and a union in the context of health care?

- a) A regulator enforces standards, while an association provides professional development, and a union advocates for nurses' rights. – Regulators focus on enforcing standards and protecting the public, associations provide resources and professional development for members, and unions advocate for the rights and working conditions of their members.
- b) A union enforces standards, while a regulator provides professional development, and an association advocates for nurses' rights.
- c) An association enforces standards, while a union provides professional development, and a regulator advocates for nurses' rights.
- d) All three—regulator, association, and union—perform the same functions in health care.

*Question***02/05**

Match each regulatory function of BCCNM with the most appropriate description.

Setting standards	Setting and enforcing standards for ethical and competent nursing practice.
Inquiry, discipline, and monitoring	Investigating and addressing concerns about unsafe or unethical nursing care.
Quality Assurance	Supporting nurses to reflect on their practice and make improvements.
Licensing/Registration	Defining the qualifications and skills needed to enter the nursing profession.
Education Program Review	Working with institutions to ensure nursing education programs meet requirements to prepare nurses for entry to practice.

03/05

Which organization is responsible for protecting the public by ensuring nurses meet required standards for safe, competent, and ethical care?

- a) BC College of Nurses & Midwives (BCCNM) - BCCNM is the regulator responsible for protecting the public.
- b) Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC (NNPBC)
- c) BC Nurses' Union (BCNU)
- d) Health Employees' Union (HEU)

04/05

Why is nursing licensing important? Select all that apply.

- a) It holds nurses accountable to meet required standards for safe and competent care.
- b) It is a legal requirement to practice nursing in many jurisdictions.
- c) It allows nurses to practice without following regulations.
- d) It protects the public by holding nurses accountable for safe and ethical practices.
- e) It guarantees higher salaries for licensed nurses.

Nursing licensing is essential as it holds nurses accountable to meet required standards for safe and competent care.

05/05

What is the primary purpose of the quality assurance program implemented by BCCNM?

- a) To negotiate better working conditions and salaries for nurses.
- b) To ensure the public receives safe, competent, and ethical care, by supporting nurses to engage in ongoing reflection and development. - This is correct. The quality assurance program focuses on maintaining high standards of care by supporting nurses to engage in ongoing reflection and development.
- c) To represent the voice of nursing and influence health policy.
- d) To provide legal support during workplace grievances.

Thank you for completing this module! Want to learn more? Check out one of the other modules in the Scope of Practice Learning Series.

Certificate of completion

To receive a certificate of completion, please fill in your name and the date on the certificate and SAVE or PRINT.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

BCCNM Explained: Our Role and Responsibility

Scope of Practice Learning Series

presented to

Date completed

*Thank you for completing this learning module.
Please continue to apply this knowledge
to your nursing practice.*