



COLLEGE OF NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Continuing Education Policy (2007 Revision)

The continuing education requirement exists to ensure that Naturopathic physicians in practice continually maintain their competency in all related course material necessary to the practice of Naturopathic medicine in British Columbia. This enables the Naturopathic physician to provide their patients with current professional Naturopathic healthcare, and also serves to protect the public. It is also mandated under the CNPBC bylaws.

Evidence based measurement should be used where possible to assure desired competencies have been assimilated. This is also seen as a direction of other Health Professions across North America focusing on Continual Quality Improvement initiatives.

CNPBC requires a minimum of 40 hours of continuing education over a 2-year period, plus an additional 2 hours for each Certification area. This requirement can be fulfilled from having all the 40 hours drawn from a combination of categories A, B, C, D and Certification hours from Category E

Category A : 5 hours minimum and 10 hours maximum from one or more of the following:

1. CNPBC General Meeting (AGM/SGM)
2. BCNA Annual General Meeting
3. CNA Annual General Meeting.
4. Any other provincial AGM
5. AANP Annual General Meeting

Category B : 20 hours minimum, 30 hours maximum, drawn from any educational seminar offered by any recognized naturopathic organization such as the BCNA, CNA, NWA, ONA, AANP, and other official provincial or state associations

Category C : a maximum of 10 hours, no minimum from any medical education seminar, including:

- seminars sponsored by any other medical organizations such as chiropractic, medical, nursing, psychology, acupuncture, etc
- supplement and pharmaceutical company sponsored educational seminars
- teleconference, web-conference, video and audio recordings of seminars, computer-based learning programs and all other distant-learning programs
- journal or book reviews, provided appropriate documentation and learning summary is provided

✉ Suite 840, 605 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 5J3

☎ (604) 688-8236 📠 Fax (604) 688-8476

✉ e-mail: office@cnpbc.bc.ca 🌐 website: <http://www.cnpbc.bc.ca>

Category D A minimum of 5 hours and a maximum of 10 hours from any Professional Development category listed below:

- CNPBC or BCNA Committee or Board membership
- Teaching: Doctors offering courses or workshops to either the public or professionals
- Preceptors or Preceptorships : This represents taking on a preceptor student or preceptoring with another health professional. One hour of credit will be given for each day of preceptorship.
- Professional health association meetings other than naturopathic associations listed in Category A and not including educational seminars e.g. Attending an AGM or professional meeting of any non-ND health profession such as chiropractors, nurses, lab techs, etc.
- Personal and Business Development courses related to business, office management, accounting, financial management, communication skills, leadership development, public speaking and related topics

Category E – For those members with Certification designations, an additional 4 hours of CE is required for each certification area every 4 years, over and above the 40 general hours required.

These Certification designations currently include :
acupuncture, ozone, hyperbaric, chelation, and prolotherapy.

Learning methods include courses, seminars, workshops, any distant learning methodology and self-study provided appropriate documentation is provided for all hours.

GENERAL

It is the member's responsibility to provide this committee with all the detailed information regarding the above as well as proof of seminar attendance.. Seminar attendance from official naturopathic seminars requires official verified documentation sent to the office of the CNPBC. All other seminars, meetings and approved CE functions require the submission of an official CNPBC CE Verification Form . If you are in doubt as to the acceptability of your hours, pre-approval is necessary Without advanced approval, CE credit may not be given , post-hoc.

It is the doctor's responsibility to ensure that all continuing education hours are submitted and recorded with CNPBC. Annual reports will be distributed by CNPBC detailing CE hours. Should a discrepancy be present, it is the doctor's responsibility to notify the CNPBC and provide documentation of the corrected hours. To receive credit for CE hours, please send to the CNPBC office, "Attn.: CE", a copy of the seminar outline, proof of registration and attendance or the appropriate CE Verification Form . (Remember to keep photocopies for your own records in case of discrepancies).

Hours are granted **on an hour per hour basis** (e.g.: if a course/meeting is 5 hours, 5 hours of CE are granted), as determined by the seminar outline. If the seminar goes overtime, you will only be credited for the hours stated in the seminar brochure. Preceptor hours are given on the basis of one hour for each day of preceptorship..

At the end of the 2-year period, the office will submit to the Board, a list of all members and their accumulated credit hours.

For those members who have failed to fulfill their continuing educational requirements, the Board has set down the following penalties:

1. Payment of a fine, due immediately upon expiration of the current continuing educational period. The fine will be \$50.00 for each outstanding hour, to a maximum of \$250.00. If more than 20 hours are outstanding immediate referral to the Registrar, for possible referral to the Board for licensing restriction.
2. The outstanding credit hours must be completed within 6 months of the subsequent continuing educational period.
3. If compliance with the above penalties does not occur within the time specified, the member's name will be forwarded to the Board for suspension of their licence to practice.
4. In the instance of a discrepancy between a member and the CNPBC office, the matter will be referred to the board for resolution.

NEW MEMBERS

New members to the College will be required to fulfill continuing education hours on a pro-rated basis.

For new members, the 2-year continuing education period will be divided into four terms of 6 months each. Each term represents the equivalent of 10 credit hours, prorated for every 6 months of registration.

Certification credit hours will be prorated on a similar basis with one Certification CE hour being required for each 6 months of registration.

In the case of maternity leave an allowance of one-half credit hours is granted.