

College of Naturopathic Physicians of British Columbia

Continuous Quality and Professional Improvement

Practice Review

What is a Practice Review?

It is an opportunity to review the quality of service you provide an educational process

- a sampling of your daily performance in practice
- a measurement of your performance against the CNPBC Standards of Practice
- an opportunity to identify priorities for improvement in practice
- an important step in reviewing your professional development strategy

When is Practice Review Recommended?

A practice review may be recommended in the following situations:

- in response to a pattern of inappropriate prescribing
- when ordered by the Inquiry committee
- as part of a random audit when ordered by the Quality Assurance Committee

The Office Review

The Office Review is the main procedure for assessing a naturopathic physician's practice. The following components are covered in an office visit:

- physical aspects of office operations such as cleanliness, sterilization procedures, privacy protection for files, professionalism
- administrative aspects of office operations
- technical aspects of providing a medical service: history taking, physical exam, lab testing, pharmacotherapy, prescribing practices
- professional responsibilities such as maintaining competence through continuous professional development
- chart review

Components of an Office Review

1. Introductory Interview

- the purpose of this initial interview is to acquaint the reviewer with the practice
- nature of the practice: areas of focus, certifications
- professional development activities- review of the Continuous Professional Development Workbook
- practice management responsibilities

2. Office Inspection Checklist

- the reviewer will go over the Office Checklist with the Doctor

3. Chart Audit

General Requirements

- identification of the patient
- identification of the person entering chart information
- legibility
- organization of the charts using SOAP format
- allergies, supplement lists, problem lists
- test results and lab data
- other pertinent information

Specific Requirements

- histories and findings on physical examinations
- diagnosis are recorded along with differential diagnosis
- tests and lab studies are used to support the diagnosis and/or treatments
- treatments are recorded and appropriate to the diagnosis
- prescriptive drugs are recorded and appropriately prescribed
- treatment plans are logical and recorded

4. Case-based Discussions: Chart Stimulated Recall

This discussion provides an opportunity to:

- fill in gaps in the recorded information
- describe the clinical reasoning that led to the diagnostic, testing and treatment choices
- prescribing practices and rationale for prescriptions made, precautions taken and lab studies utilized to monitor use and outcomes

Reports

The reviewer sends the CNPBC a report of their findings and their opinion on whether or not the practice meets expected CNPBC Standards of Practice

Follow-up

The College will follow-up with the physician as necessary to evaluate and document improvements in practice.

If substantive deficiencies are discovered by the Practice Review, the College may recommend a set of remedial requirements such as courses or professional instruction to be performed by a certain date for the physician to remain in good standing.

If practices are discovered that compromise patient safety and the physician does not take appropriate remedial steps then a complaint may be made to the College pursuant to the Health Professions Act