



## Practical Nursing (PPNP)

### Program Outline

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	September 2012
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE:	September 2023
PROGRAM OUTLINE REVIEW DATE:	March 2028

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#### GENERAL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

This two-year diploma program is designed to help prepare graduates to give qualified professional care to individuals and families in a variety of settings. Graduates are eligible to apply to write REx-PN exams for licensure as Practical Nurses. In order to meet requirements for clinical practica, students may have to travel to regional areas in the East Kootenay.

Within this curriculum, caring is viewed as a core concept. Practical Nurses foster client empowerment in care planning and decision making, and are cognizant of their unique biological, psychosocial, spiritual, cultural and environmental complexity. Practical Nurses care for clients across the lifespan, providing safe, knowledgeable and integrated care through critical thinking and clinical judgment.

The Practical Nurse curriculum supports a deliberate, client-focused approach, and fosters the development of a conscious relationship with the client and the learning environment. Learning occurs through formal and informal study, mentorship, coaching, role modeling and experience. Lifelong learning is facilitated by a learner-owned approach that promotes cultural safety, cultural humility, caring, independence, critical inquiry and creativity. The curriculum embraces concept-based, case-based, skill-based and integrated learning experiences, and builds on the learners' prior learning and life experience. Collaborative learning through interdisciplinary understanding and effective team functioning are promoted as well.

#### Diploma

The Practical Nurse diploma is awarded to students who successfully complete the prescribed Practical Nurse curriculum.

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**Program Information:** The curriculum framework of the Provincial Practical Nursing Program (PPNP) is guided by the Nurses (Licensed Practical) Regulation (2015), Entry-to-Practice Competencies for Licensed Practical Nurses (CCPNR, 2013), Professional Standards for Licensed Practical Nurses (CLPNBC, 2014), Scope of Practice: Standards, Limits and Conditions (CLPNBC, 2017), and the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination Blueprint (CPNRE, 2017).

This Practical Nursing curriculum (2011) was produced through a collaboration of participating institutions within the public post-secondary education system. In 2017 the (2011) Practical Nursing Program Provincial Curriculum Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Revised 2017 was integrated. Any total or partial reproduction of this product by any means is prohibited without written permission from all of the participating colleges.

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**Delivery:** This program is delivered face to face.

**COTR Credits:** 74

**Hours for this program:** 1922 hours

### Level 1

**Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:**

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	232
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	135
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	90
Other Contact Hours	
<b>Total</b>	<b>457</b>

**Practicum Hours (if applicable):**

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	90
Formal Work Experience	
Other	
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>

### Level 2

**Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:**

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	155
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	180
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	120
Other Contact Hours	
<b>Total</b>	<b>455</b>

**Practicum Hours (if applicable):**

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	120
Formal Work Experience	
Other	
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>

### Level 3

**Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:**

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	121
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	120
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	65
Other Contact Hours	
<b>Total</b>	<b>306</b>

**Practicum Hours (if applicable):**

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	65
Formal Work Experience	
Other	
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>

## Level 4

### Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	144
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	180
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	200
Other Contact Hours (Preceptorship)	180
<b>Total</b>	<b>704</b>

### Practicum Hours (if applicable):

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	200
Formal Work Experience (Preceptorship)	180
Other	
<b>Total</b>	<b>380</b>

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### Program Outline Author or Contact:

Natasha Fontaine, RN, BN, PIDP

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Signature

### APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Department Head  
Sandi Hill  
E-mail: [shill@cotr.bc.ca](mailto:shill@cotr.bc.ca)

Dean of Health and Human Services  
Heather Hepworth  
E-mail: [hepworth@cotr.bc.ca](mailto:hepworth@cotr.bc.ca)

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Department Head Signature

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Dean Signature

EDCO

Valid from: September 2023 – March 2028

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Education Council Approval Date

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### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND TRANSFER CREDIT:

#### Admission Requirements:

#### Academic

- Secondary school graduation or equivalent
- Minimum 65% in either English Studies 12, English First Peoples 12, ENGL 090, or equivalent (refer to Course Equivalency information on the College Website)
- Minimum 60% in either Foundations of Math 11, MATH 080, MATH 082, Pre-Calculus 11, or equivalent
- Minimum 60% in either BIOL 090, Anatomy and Physiology 12, or equivalent
- Human Anatomy and Physiology for Practical Nurses with a minimum grade of 65% must be achieved before taking Variations in Health 1, Health Promotion 1, Pharmacology 1, Integrated Nursing Practice 1 and Consolidated Practice 1

## English Language Proficiency Requirements

- Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to achieve the following scores in one of the two tests below:
  1. International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with minimum scores of:
    - Speaking: 7.0
    - Listening: 7.5
    - Reading: 6.5
    - Writing: 7.0
    - Overall Band Score: 7.0
  2. Canadian English Language Benchmarks Assessment for Nurses (CELBAN) with minimum scores of:
    - Speaking: 8.0
    - Listening: 10.0
    - Reading: 8.0
    - Writing: 7.0
- It is the applicant's responsibility to arrange for assessment through Student Services or an Education Advisor at the College.

## Additional Admission Requirements

- Practical Nursing Requisite Skills and Abilities Declaration
- Criminal Record Check (CRC) through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Notice of Collection, Use and Disclosure Agreement

## Practicum Requirements

- CPR for Health Care Providers BLS or HCP or equivalent, to be kept current for the duration of the program. Acceptable CPR courses must include a face-to-face component and may be combined with a first aid course
- BCCDC Immunizations for BC Health Care Workers
- Annual influenza immunization
- COVID-19 vaccination
- Negative TB testing results, must be completed no earlier than 8 months before the beginning of the PN Program

## Flexible Assessment (FA):

Credit can be awarded for one or more courses in this program FA  Yes  No

**Transfer Credit:** For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>.

Students should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

## Practical Nursing Diploma

<b>Level 1:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours Lecture / Lab</b>
PPNP 101 Anatomy & Physiology for Practical Nursing	3	72
PPNP 102 Professional Practice 1	2	25
PPNP 103 Professional Communication 1	2	35
PPNP 104 Variations in Health 1	3	40
PPNP 105 Health Promotion 1	2	30
PPNP 106 Pharmacology 1	2	30
PPNP 107 Integrated Nursing Practice 1	4	135
PPNP 108 Consolidated Practice Experience 1	2	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>457</b>

\* Note: Students must pass PPNP 101 to continue in Level 1 of the program.

<b>Level 2:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours Lecture / Lab</b>
PPNP 111 Professional Practice 2	1	20
PPNP 112 Professional Communication 2	2	30
PPNP 113 Variations in Health 2	3	45
PPNP 114 Health Promotion 2	2	30
PPNP 115 Pharmacology 2	2	30
PPNP 116 Integrated Nursing Practice 2	5	180
PPNP 117 Consolidated Practice Experience 2	3	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>455</b>

<b>Level 3:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours Lecture / Lab</b>
PPNP 201 Professional Practice 3	1	20
PPNP 202 Professional Communication 3	1	20
PPNP 203 Variations in Health 3	3	45
PPNP 204 Health Promotion 3	3	36
PPNP 205 Integrated Nursing Practice 3	4	120
PPNP 206 Consolidated Practice Experience 3	2	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>306</b>

<b>Level 4:</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours Lecture / Lab</b>
PPNP 211 Professional Practice 4	1	20
PPNP 212 Professional Communication 4	1	20
PPNP 213 Variations in Health 4	3	50
PPNP 214 Health Promotion 4	2	24
PPNP 215 Integrated Nursing Practice 4	5	180
PPNP 216 Consolidated Practice Experience 4	4	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>494</b>

	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Hours Lecture / Lab</b>
PPNP 217 Transition to Preceptorship	2	30
PPNP 218 Preceptorship	4	180
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>210</b>

#### **COURSE GRADE:**

Course grades are assigned as follows for all theory courses except Pharmacology:

<b>Grade</b>	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	F
<b>Mark (Percent)</b>	≥ 95	94-90	89-85	84-80	79-75	74-70	69-65	< 65

Pharmacology (PPNP 106 & 115) courses require 80% average on theory evaluations and 100% pass on Math calculations (students have 3 attempts to meet 100% standard). Competency-based courses are included in the Provincial PN program. In Integrated Nursing Practice courses that include nursing skills or practice, students must demonstrate both satisfactory achievement of practice criteria and a passing average of 70% on the assignments in the course before a COM (Complete) grade can be granted. In Consolidated Practice Experience courses, students who demonstrate satisfactory achievement of practice criteria receive a COM (Complete) grade; a COM grade is required for progression in the program.

<b>COM</b>	Completed to defined standard
<b>NCG</b>	No Credit Granted

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

### **PPNP 101 – ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY FOR PRACTICAL NURSING**

This course is designed to provide the student with an overview of the structure (anatomy) and function (physiology) of 12 body systems. Students also learn various health promotion strategies that assist in maintaining optimal function of these body systems. Healthcare terminology is introduced in this course.

### **PPNP 102 – PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 1**

This theory course provides an introduction to the profession of Practical Nursing and the legislation that informs PN practice within British Columbia. Course topics include the history of nursing and specifically the evolution of Practical Nursing within the Canadian health care system. This course also explores the philosophy and foundational concepts of the Provincial Practical Nursing Program.

### **PPNP 103 – PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION 1**

This course provides learners with the foundational knowledge for caring and professional communication in nursing. An experiential and self-reflective approach is used to develop self-awareness and interpersonal communication skills in the context of safe, competent and collaborative nursing practice. Topics include communication theory, the nurse-client relationship, therapeutic communication, cross-cultural communication and effective teamwork.

### **PPNP 104 – VARIATIONS IN HEALTH 1**

This introductory course provides learners with the foundations of disease and illness across the lifespan. Students will gain an understanding of pathophysiological alterations of body systems, as well as nursing management of disease and illness across the lifespan (with an emphasis on interventions and treatment). Cultural diversity in healing practices will be explored, as well as the incorporation of evidence-informed practice.

### **PPNP 105 – HEALTH PROMOTION 1**

This course develops a beginning knowledge of normal growth and development, and introduces the concepts of health promotion, health inequities and the determinants of health. Topics include disease prevention, health enhancement, health protection, health restoration/recovery care and support.

### **PPNP 106 – PHARMACOLOGY 1**

This introductory course examines the principles of pharmacology required to administer medications in a safe and professional manner. Medication administration requires the application of the nursing process for clinical decision making. Various routes of medication administration are introduced, and complementary, Indigenous, alternative remedies and polypharmacy across the lifespan are also explored.

### **PPNP 107 – INTEGRATED NURSING PRACTICE 1**

This course emphasizes the art and science of nursing, focusing on the development of basic nursing care and assessment. Learners apply nursing knowledge through the practice of clinical decision making, nursing assessment skills; and nursing interventions aimed at the promotion of health, independence and comfort. A variety of approaches (e.g., simulation) is used to assist learners to integrate theory from other Level 1 courses.

### **PPNP 108 – CONSOLIDATED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE 1**

The first practice experience provides learners with an opportunity to integrate theory from Level 1 coursework into practice. Learners gain experience in various settings with a focus on the healthy client. This practice experience emphasizes the role of the Practical Nurse, personal care skills, organization of care, focused assessment, beginning medication administration and professional communication.

**PPNP 111 – PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 2**

This course examines the legislation influencing PN practice with clients experiencing chronic illness and those in residential care settings. Specific professional issues such as responsibility, accountability, ethical practice, and leadership relevant to the PN role in residential care will be explored. Critical thinking and decision making specific to the care of clients with chronic health challenges and inter-professional practice will also be addressed.

**PPNP 112 – PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION 2**

This course provides learners with an opportunity to develop professional communication skills with the older adult and clients requiring end of life care. Interprofessional communication knowledge and skills are further developed.

**PPNP 113 – VARIATIONS IN HEALTH 2**

This course focuses on pathophysiology as it relates to the aging process and selected chronic illnesses. The main focus is on the care of older adults experiencing a health challenge. Cultural diversity in healing practices will be explored as well as evidence-informed research and practice.

**PPNP 114 – HEALTH PROMOTION 2**

This course focuses on health promotion as it relates to the aging process including exploration of health promotion activities aimed at supporting clients to maintain their health. The concepts of health promotion, physical and mental wellness, normal aging changes and continued independence are examined.

**PPNP 115 – PHARMACOLOGY 2**

This course builds on Pharmacology I to increase learners' understanding of pharmacotherapeutics prescribed for illnesses that clients experience across the lifespan. Topics include drug classifications and links with common diseases/illness based on a body system approach and drug resistance.

**PPNP 116 – INTEGRATED NURSING PRACTICE 2**

This course builds on the foundation of Level I and emphasizes the development of clinical decision making, nursing assessments and interventions to promote the health of older adults. A variety of approaches (e.g., simulation) will help learners to integrate theory from Level I and II courses to provide safe, competent and ethical nursing care with older adults.

**PPNP 117 – CONSOLIDATED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE 2**

This practice experience provides learners with the opportunity to integrate theory from Level I and II courses into practice. Learners will practice with aging clients and/or those with chronic illnesses in residential care settings. Medication administration, nursing care, organization, comprehensive health assessment, wound care and introduction to leadership are emphasized in this course.

**PPNP 201 – PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 3**

This course integrates the concepts from previous professional practice courses and introduces learners to practice in the community. The role of the Practical Nurse as leader is emphasized in interactions with clients and their families and other health care providers.

**PPNP 202 – PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION 3**

This course focuses on specific professional communication skills used with clients and care providers across the lifespan requiring care in the community.



### **PPNP 203 – VARIATIONS IN HEALTH 3**

This course focuses on the continuum of care and the development of knowledge related to health challenges managed in the community setting. Pathophysiology and nursing care of clients requiring home health care, rehabilitation and supportive services in the community are explored. As well, cultural diversity in healing approaches are explored along with the incorporation of evidence informed research and practice.

### **PPNP 204 – HEALTH PROMOTION 3**

This course is focused on health promotion as it relates to the continuum of care across the lifespan. Health promotion in the context of mental illness, physical and developmental disabilities and maternal/child health is highlighted. Normal growth and development from conception to middle adulthood is addressed.

### **PPNP 205 – INTEGRATED NURSING PRACTICE 3**

This course builds on the theory and practice from Levels I and II. Through a variety of approaches (e.g., simulation), learners will continue to develop knowledge and practice of comprehensive nursing assessment, planning for and interventions with clients experiencing multiple health challenges in a variety of settings.

### **PPNP 206 – CONSOLIDATED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE 3**

This practice experience will introduce learners to community care settings and an opportunity to apply and adapt knowledge gained in Levels I, II, and III within a continuum of care for clients across the lifespan. Learners may gain experience through simulation and in a variety of settings with focus on concepts outlined in Integrated Nursing Practice III.

### **PPNP 211 – PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 4**

This course prepares learners for the role of the Practical Nurse in caring for clients with acute presentation of illness. Legislation influencing PN practice, specific professional practice issues, and ethical practice pertinent to PN practice in acute care environments are explored. Practice issues that occur across the lifespan are considered. Collaborative practice with other health care team members and specifically the working partnership with RNs in the acute care setting are examined.

### **PPNP 212 – PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION 4**

The focus of this course is on the advancement of professional communication within the acute care setting caring for clients across the lifespan. The practice of collaboration with health care team members and clients will be further developed.

### **PPNP 213 – VARIATIONS IN HEALTH 4**

This course focuses on pathophysiology as it relates to acute disease and illness of clients across the lifespan, specifically the care of the client experiencing acute illness including nursing interventions and treatment options. Implications of the acute exacerbation of chronic illness are addressed. Cultural diversity in healing practices are explored as well as evidenced informed research and practice.

### **PPNP 214 – HEALTH PROMOTION 4**

This course focuses on health promotion in the context of caring for clients experiencing an acute exacerbation of chronic illness or an acute episode of illness. It also examines health-promoting strategies during hospitalization to improve or help maintain clients' health status after discharge occurs. Topics also include how to prepare clients for discharge from care through teaching and learning of health-promoting strategies.

**PPNP 215 – INTEGRATED NURSING PRACTICE 4**

This course emphasizes the development of nursing skills aimed at promoting health and healing with individuals experiencing acute health challenges across the lifespan. A variety of approaches (e.g., simulation) helps learners build on theory and practice from Levels I, II, and III to integrate new knowledge and skills relevant to the acute care setting.

**PPNP 216 – CONSOLIDATED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE 4**

This practice experience provides learners with the opportunity to integrate theory from all courses into the role of the Practical Nurse in the acute care setting and other practice areas as appropriate. Learners will focus on clients with exacerbations of chronic illness and/or acute illness across the lifespan and will consolidate knowledge and skills such as: post-operative care, surgical wound management, intravenous therapy, focused assessment and clinical decision-making in acute care settings.

**PPNP 217 – TRANSITION TO PRECEPTORSHIP**

Transition to Preceptorship will prepare the learner for the final practice experience. Simulation experiences and self-directed learning provides the learner with increased competence and confidence in their final practice experience.

**PPNP 218 – PRECEPTORSHIP**

This final practice experience provides an opportunity for learners to demonstrate integration and consolidation of knowledge, skills, and abilities within the realities of the workplace and become practice ready. This experience may occur through a variety of practice experience models, including the preceptorship model, under the immediate supervision of a single, fully qualified and experienced LPN, RN or RPN and/or within the context of a collaborative learning environment as a participating team member.