

Receiving Client-Specific Orders from a Registered Nurse with Certified Practice

I thought nurses could only take client-specific orders from a physician or NP!

Registered nurses require a client-specific order from a listed health professional for [restricted activities](#) included in the BCCNM Scope of Practice section 7.

Listed health professionals include dentists, physicians, midwives, naturopaths, podiatrists, pharmacists, nurse practitioners and certified practice nurses.

The certified practice nurse must be licensed to practice in British Columbia and can only provide client-specific orders for activities which they are authorized to perform and are within their scope of practice. For example, an RN(C) with certified practice in STI Management would not provide a client-specific order for medication to treat congestive heart failure.

In addition, nurses must ensure they have endorsement and support from their employer/health authority before giving or receiving nurse to nurse orders. Nurses employed by Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) have endorsement for this scope of practice.

How do I know if the nurse I'm receiving an order from has certified practice?

Nurses accept accountability and responsibility for the orders they give. A nurse is responsible for ensuring that any orders they give are:

- Within their autonomous scope of practice
- Within their individual competence
- Consistent with relevant standards, limits and conditions established by BCCNM and with their own organizational policies, procedures and restrictions

Learn more about nurses giving and taking client-specific orders here:

[Acting with Client-Specific Orders](#)

[Standards for Giving Client-Specific Orders](#)

[Restricted Activities that Require an Order](#)

[Reflective Thinking Tool: Acting with Client-Specific Orders](#)

[Mini Web Learning Module: Acting with Client-Specific Orders](#)