



Association of
Registered Nurses
of Newfoundland
and Labrador

To: NLPB, CPSNL, NLPDP, Directors of Profession Practice – RHAs,
Pharmacists

From: Michelle Osmond, Director of Regulatory Services

Date: February 5, 2018

Subject: Update on Nurse Practitioners authority to prescribe (Buprenorphine-
Naloxone-Suboxone and methadone)

Michelle Osmond

As communicated in our last issue of *Regulation Matters*, in October 2017 ARNNL Council approved changes to the Nurse Practitioner scope of practice with respect to buprenorphine – naloxone (suboxone) and methadone. **Only NPs**, who have met specified practice and education requirements will be granted authority to prescribe these medications. While actions required provincially to grant NPs authority to prescribe these medications are complete, the federal exemption, required under section 56 of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA)* to prescribe methadone, is pending from Health Canada.

On February 5, 2018 ARNNL granted the first NP authority to prescribe buprenorphine-naloxone (suboxone). The name of this NP is posted on ARNNL's [Member Search](#). This Member Search will be updated as other NPs are granted authority to prescribe this medication.

A further update will be provided regarding NP authority to prescribe methadone when the section 56 exemption is granted.

For further information/questions, please contact:

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