



Project News #10



NP practice analysis validation survey coming soon Help shape the future NP entry-level exam

The Nurse Practitioner Regulation Implementation Plan Project (NPR-FIPP) team is preparing for the next project milestone. This involves conducting a national Nurse Practitioner (NP) practice analysis validation survey that will inform the development of a new entry-to-practice NP examination in 2026.

By late February or early March 2024, we will be inviting NPs across Canada to participate in the practice analysis validation survey. The process will be facilitated by Meazure Learning Inc. (formerly known as Yardstick), with oversight from the NPR-FIPP.

What is a practice analysis?

A practice analysis outlines key NP work attributes and tasks performed to provide information about the profession and to eventually inform development of test questions and exam forms for an entry-to-practice exam.

How was the practice analysis document developed?

The practice analysis document was developed by an advisory committee made up of 10 NPs representing jurisdictions across Canada from a variety of practice settings and experiences, including areas such as, acute care, pediatrics, geriatrics, indigenous health care and more. The group met in person in December 2023 to complete the first phase of the practice analysis project (see picture below).



From left to right: Chris Beauchamp, VP, Psychometrics at Meazure Learning; Chantal Rioux (ON); Marge Ancliffe (NS); Heather Tracey (NL); Lori Penner (SK); Gail Macartney (PEI); Jill Larocque (AB); Kelvin Bei (BC); Krista Cormier (NB); Kristine Turnbull (ON); Naomi Nickerson (MB); and Lynn Power, Executive Director, College of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador, and CCRNR Executive Lead for the NPR-FIPP

IN THIS ISSUE

NP PRACTICE ANALYSIS
VALIDATION SURVEY
COMING SOON

During the meeting, the group of NPs developed a draft document outlining key NP practice indicators that will inform the development of test questions for the exam. This exercise involved applying their practice expertise and experiences to review existing information about NP practice, such as the 2015 practice analysis, the 2018 NP exam blueprint, and the [2023 National NP Entry-Level Competencies](#).

The result was a comprehensive draft practice analysis document that is being used to create the survey that NPs will receive in late February/early March 2024.

How can NPs participate?

All NPs registered to practice in Canada will receive an email from their nursing regulator inviting them to participate in the practice analysis survey. The email will include instructions and a link to the survey hosted by Meazure Learning.

Why should NPs participate?

The practice analysis validation survey is an opportunity for NPs to give feedback that will inform how new NPs are tested at entry-to-practice, including the focus and weighting of the exam questions. The participation of NPs from across the country is crucial because their responses will direct the future NP entry-level exam.

What else should NPs know about the survey?

Anonymity. Meazure Learning will employ strict standards to make sure the identity of each survey responder is anonymous and confidential. Nursing regulators will not collect any of the data provided in the survey; inputs will go directly to Meazure Learning who will submit a consolidated analysis of results to the NPR-FIPP team.

Survey style. The survey will ask NPs to provide their ratings of the practice statements/item identified in the draft practice analysis to assess the following:

- whether an entry-level NP does the practice activity described in the statement
- how frequently entry-level NPs do the activity
- the level of importance of the activity.

Survey period. In consideration of NPs' busy schedules, the survey will be available for four weeks and will allow survey responders to save and continue at a later time, as many times as needed until completion. Follow-up emails will be sent to remind NPs to complete the practice analysis validation survey or finish it if they've already started.

Watch out for an email with the survey from your provincial/territorial nursing regulator in the coming weeks.

For more information about the NPR-FIPP initiative, see the [Project Summary](#). You can subscribe to the NPR-FIPP newsletter and send us your comments/questions by completing and submitting the [forms on the CCRNR website](#).