IMPORTANT

As of Sept. 4, 2018, the following nursing colleges amalgamated to become the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP):

- College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia (CLPNBC)
- College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC)
- College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of British Columbia (CRPNBC)

Although the information in the document you are about to access reflects our most current information about this topic, you'll notice the content refers to the previous nursing college that published this document prior to Sept. 4, 2018.

We appreciate your patience while we work towards updating all of our documents to reflect our new name and brand.
Documentation in Nursing Practice Web Module Learning Resources

MODULE WORKBOOK LINK
http://www.bccnp.ca/PracticeSupport/RN_NP/Documents/Documentation_workbook.pdf

DIRECTIVES FOR DOCUMENTATION

BCCNP provides many resources that encompass professional directives regarding documentation.

BCCNP RN-NP Professional Standards for Practice
https://www.bccnp.ca/Standards/RN_NP/ProfessionalStandards/Pages/Default.aspx

BCCNP Practice Standard for Documentation
https://www.bccnp.ca//Standards/RN_NP/PracticeStandards/Pages/documentation.aspx

BCCNP Practice Support Guidelines for Nursing Documentation
https://www.bccnp.ca/Standards/RN_NP/PracticeStandards/Pages/documentation.aspx

Privacy and Confidentiality Practice Standard
https://www.bccnp.ca/Standards/RN_NP/PracticeStandards/Pages/privacy.aspx

Frequently asked questions (related to documentation)

These are available in the Nursing Standards section of the BCCNP website or via the following link:
https://www.bccnp.ca/Standards/RN_NP/FAQs/Pages/Default.aspx

Practice Standard: Appropriate use of titles
https://www.bccnp.ca/Standards/RN_NP/PracticeStandards/Pages/titles.aspx
CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE DOCUMENTATION

ISMP has created a list of dangerous abbreviations and symbols that result in many medication errors. These will help you understand what abbreviations are acceptable in effective documentation.

Websites

Institute for Safe Medication Practice (ISMP)
http://www.ismp-canada.org/dangerousabbreviations.htm

ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTATION

Websites

Canada Health Infoway: Canada Health Infoway: Establishing Electronic Health Records for Canadians

Infoway is an independent not-for-profit corporation created by Canada’s First Ministers in 2001 to foster and accelerate the development and adoption of pan-Canadian electronic health record (EHR) systems with compatible standards and communications technologies.

www.infoway-inforoute.ca

Canadian Institute for Health Information: CIHI - Canadian Institute for Health Information

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides essential information on Canada’s health system and the health of Canadians. The CIHI has several reference articles related to the use on electronic health records posted on their website. Search: Electronic Health Records

www.cihi.ca

Health Canada

Health Canada is the Federal department responsible for helping Canadians maintain and improve their health. Health Canada has several reference articles related to the use on electronic health records posted on their website. Search: Electronic Health Records

www.hc-sc.gc.ca
Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO)

This link to the E-health Initiative of the RNAO contains self-directed learning modules about electronic documentation and electronic health records as well as several articles about the implementation of the e-health initiative in Ontario.
http://www.rnao.org/ehealth/

COMMON ERRORS IN DOCUMENTATION

Journal Articles

This article discusses nurses’ liability related to poor documentation, focusing the discussion on common errors. It also offers suggestions for effective documentation.

Written from the perspective of lawyers who defend health care providers, this article offers guidance regarding requirements for good documentation in a health care environment.
BCCNP has a webpage that includes local library sources (Health Authorities and Post-secondary Institution Libraries). Scroll to the bottom of the page to see the list.
https://www.bccnp.ca/PracticeSupport/Pages/Default.aspx

Web sites

Esther’s voice:
http://www.esthersvoice.com/

This web site was established by the family of a woman who died in a BC hospital, following elective hip replacement surgery. The family had held concerns about their mother’s care and those concerns were ultimately substantiated by an Inquiry from the Coroner’s Office. The ‘Coroner’s judgment of inquiry’ named poor nursing documentation as one of the significant issues in this case. To review the summary of the Coroner’s report, select “Coroner’s judgment of inquiry”. This summary also includes a link to a PDF of the full report from the Coroner; this includes specific details of the inadequate nursing documentation in this case and is recommended reading.

For ‘do not use’ abbreviations, symbols and drug doses
http://www.ismp-canada.org/dangerousabbreviations.htm