



CANADIAN COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING: INSIGHTS ABOUT COVID & BEYOND

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Toronto, Ontario, Canada
June 13, 2023**

Canada



Community Health Nursing Practice Specialties

🍁 Public Health

🍁 Home Health

🍁 Primary Care



Public Health

- ❖ Improves population health by focusing on the social determinants of health (i.e.; housing, genetics, education, environment, food security)
- ❖ Practice includes education, advocacy, policy development, assessment & teaching



Home Health Nursing

- ✿ Assist individuals in the home so they can live independently
- ✿ Coordinate care for clients
- ✿ Administer treatment, rehabilitation, support and palliative care



Primary Care

- ✿ Focus on preventing, diagnosing, teaching and managing health conditions as well as promoting health in a clinic setting
- ✿ Improves the health of populations across the continuum of care



Role of Community/Public Health Nurses During COVID-19

- ✿ Provide evidence-informed & timely information/education on COVID-19 & public health measures (i.e. social distancing, masking, hand-washing, vaccines)
- ✿ Plan & coordinate PCR testing sites, mass & mobile vaccination clinics & administer vaccines
- ✿ Engage with health colleagues for COVID planning & preparation (i.e. hospitals, schools, & long-term care facilities)
- ✿ Input into organizational policies, guidelines & recommendations
- ✿ Support community needs (i.e. immigrants, LBGTQI, Indigenous, homeless, & other vulnerable groups)



Changes to Practice: RN Prescribing

- ❖ Ontario Law (2019) changed to allow registered nurses to prescribe certain medications and communicate diagnoses for purposes of prescribing; awaiting government approval
- ❖ Call for proposals to develop educational course released May 2023
- ❖ Authorization given to nurses after they complete educational course
- ❖ Medications approved: immunization, contraception, travel health, topical wound care, smoking cessation, over-the-counter medication & epinephrine





THANK YOU!

Questions?

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