



The Nova Scotia College of Nursing is the regulatory body for licensed practical nurses (LPNs), registered nurses (RNs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) in Nova Scotia. Our mandate is to protect the public by promoting the provision of safe, competent, ethical and compassionate nursing services by its registrants.

On January 5, 2022, [Subsection 56\(1\) class exemption for practitioners to conduct activities with MDMA and psilocybin](#) in relation to the [Health Canada Special Access Program \(SAP\)](#) came into force. The purpose of this exemption is to enable persons in charge of a hospital, hospital employees, practitioners and their agents, pharmacists, and licensed dealers to conduct necessary activities with MDMA and/or psilocybin that has been authorized for sale pursuant to subsection C.08.010(1) of the Food and Drug Regulation. This section deals with the sale of new drugs for emergency treatment under the Special Access Program.

Nurse practitioners are authorized to, on behalf of patients with serious or life-threatening conditions, and for the purpose of emergency treatment, request access to MDMA and/or psilocybin through the Special Access Program in instances where other therapies have failed, are unsuitable, or are not available in Canada.

Nurse practitioners who request MDMA and/or psilocybin on behalf of [clients](#) must possess the required [competencies](#) to safely provide care. This care is highly specialized and may only be provided in specific and limited [contexts](#) with appropriate resources. Treatment of these clients must be supported by organizational [policy](#). Nurse practitioners who wish to engage in this specific and limited practice must consult an NSCN Practice Consultant for regulatory guidance.

If you have any questions, please reach out to an NSCN Practice Consultant at practice@nscn.ca.

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Our practice support tools are developed using current reference material. The source of this material is available upon request.