

INHALATION

Intent

To advise Registrants who incorporate the controlled act of administering substances by inhalation in their naturopathic practice of the requirements to perform the procedure safely, ethically and competently.

Definitions

Inhalation: The administration of any substance by mask, nasal cannula, nebulizer or aerosol inhaler.

Substances: For the purpose of this standard is anything referred to in Table 1 (Appendix I) of the [General Regulation](#) regardless of which, if any, appear on the Schedules under the Drug and Pharmacies Regulation Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.H.4.

STANDARD 1

The Registrant who administers substances by inhalation within the context of their naturopathic practice has acquired and maintains the knowledge, skill and judgment necessary to perform the procedure safely, ethically, and competently.

A Registrant demonstrates the standard by:

- meeting the College's requirements for administering by inhalation the substances in Table 1 of the [General Regulation](#) through successful completion of the College approved prescribing and therapeutics course and examination,
- maintaining competency for performing the procedure by engaging in continuing education and/or incorporating administering substances by inhalation as a regular part of their practice, and
- ensuring that they are appropriately trained and competent in relevant emergency procedures.

STANDARD 2

The Registrant minimizes the risk to the patient, self and others that are associated with the administration of a substance by inhalation, before, during and after the procedure.

A Registrant demonstrates the standard by:

- performing the procedure within the context of a naturopathic doctor-patient relationship,
- considering the patient's condition, the risks and benefits and any other relevant circumstances specific to administering a substance by inhalation,
- assessing the patient for contraindications to the substance indicated for administration by inhalation,
- obtaining and documenting informed consent,
- complying with the Standard of Practice for Compounding, where applicable, when mixing, preparing, packaging or labelling two or more substances listed in Table 1 of the [General Regulation](#) to administer a customized therapeutic product to a patient by inhalation,
- applying current evidence-based infection control protocols to minimize risk factors for infection or contamination when administering a substance by inhalation,
- administering a substance by inhalation for therapeutic purposes when it is clinically indicated,
- administering an emergency substance listed in Table 1 of the [General Regulation](#) only when necessary, and
- ensuring documentation in the patient record in accordance with the *Standard of Practice: Record Keeping*.

STANDARD 3

The Registrant ensures that all equipment and supplies used for administering substances by inhalation are stored and maintained appropriately.

A Registrant demonstrates the standard by:

- storing and maintaining equipment and supplies according to manufacturers' specifications,
- checking equipment regularly to ensure it is functioning properly,
- ensuring equipment is calibrated by appropriately trained personnel,
- ensuring that all equipment is appropriately cleaned, disinfected and/or sterilized as per current infection prevention and control standards, and
- ensuring appropriate equipment disposal.

APPENDIX I

TABLE 1
PRESCRIBED SUBSTANCES THAT MAY BE ADMINISTERED BY INHALATION

Substance	Limitations
Acetylcysteine	No limitation specified.
Glutathione	No limitation specified.
Ipratropium Bromide	Administered to a patient by the member in his or her office only in emergency circumstances. In an emergency, administer a maximum daily dose of 0.5 mg but only after the member has administered Salbutamol to the patient.
Salbutamol	Administered to a patient by the member in his or her office only in emergency circumstances. In an emergency, administer a maximum of two doses, each dose 2.5 mg.
Saline	No limitation specified.
Therapeutic Oxygen	No limitation specified.