

# Regulated Health Professionals Act

RHPA





The Regulated Health Professions Act (“the RHPA”) changes the way health professions in Manitoba are regulated. It will replace more than 20 statutes and bring all regulated health professions under one umbrella act. The RHPA sets out consistent rules and processes for governance, registration, complaints and discipline, and regulation and by-law making authority. Each profession-specific statute will be repealed when the profession is transitioned to the RHPA. Professional self-governance will continue under the RHPA and each profession will have a college, regulations, a code of ethics and standards to govern its members.



The RHPA sets out a new way of regulating who does what in the provision of health services based on the concept of controlling specific health care services or procedures. These health care services or procedures, known as “reserved acts”, are performed in the course of providing health care by competent health care professionals. The health professional must have the appropriate knowledge, competence and skills necessary to perform the act safely. There are 21 categories of reserved acts, including such activities as ordering screening and diagnostic tests, making a diagnosis and prescribing/dispensing/administering drugs, among others.



Profession-specific regulations under the RHPA will set out what specific reserved acts a profession can perform and any limits or conditions on the performance of these acts. Under the RHPA, reserved acts are not exclusive to any one health profession, and are intended to encourage the practice of inter-professional care.

The RHPA was proclaimed in 2014 when the College of Audiologists and Speech Language Pathologists (CASLPM) transitioned to governance under the RHPA. The College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba (CRNM) is the second college (and third profession) to transition to governance under the RHPA on May 31, 2018.



# **Delegation of Reserved Acts**





Under the RHPA, a health profession regulatory college may choose, by regulation, to permit their members to delegate the performance of reserved acts to other providers, including other regulated health professionals. The College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Manitoba, which has transitioned to governance under the RHPA, permits its members to accept the delegation of specified reserved acts. This is subject to certain conditions outlined in the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Manitoba General Regulation under the RHPA.



The CRNM has determined that it will not permit its members to accept the delegation of reserved acts. This means that effective May 31, 2018, registered nurses will not be permitted to accept delegations of the performance of reserved acts from other regulated health professionals. However, registered nurses will have the authority to delegate specified reserved acts to individuals who are not regulated health professionals, subject to certain conditions outlined in the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba General Regulation.

Professions that have not yet transitioned to the RHPA may continue to permit their members to delegate the performance of reserved acts to other regulated health professionals and other providers and accept the delegation of the performance of reserved acts from other regulated health professionals.