

Canadian Association of Natural Nutritional Practitioners
Standards of Practice
(2008)

Standard 1 A Natural Nutritionist assumes accountability and responsibility in the provision of competent, safe, ethical and professional practice.

Standard 2 A Natural Nutritionist communicates and interacts clearly and effectively with individuals and groups.

Standard 3 A Natural Nutritionist applies current research and best practice findings when delivering services.

Standard 4 A Natural Nutritionist practicing in the area of direct client care effectively provides services to achieve appropriate goals.

Standard 5 A Natural Nutritionist practicing in the area of community and population health effectively provides food and nutrition initiatives that meet the needs of individuals and communities.

Standards of Practice and Indicators

Standard 1: A Natural Nutritionist assumes accountability and responsibility in the provision of competent, safe, ethical and professional practice.

Indicators:

1. Practices in accordance with provincial legislation.
2. Practices in compliance with professional standards, practice guidelines and codes, including but not limited to: Code of Ethics, Standards of Practice, Practice and Interpretive Guidelines, Continuing Competence Program. {?}
3. Provides services within their scope of practice and personal competence.
4. Obtains informed consent from individual clients.
5. Records client and other information in a clear, concise and timely manner.
6. Manages information appropriately in accordance with legislation, including but not limited to: *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, *Personal Information Protection Act*, other health information acts.
7. Integrates principles of sound financial management into practice as appropriate.
8. Incorporates appropriate continuous quality improvement programs into practice, including but not limited to: audits, surveys, variance analysis. {?}
9. Incorporates relevant risk management strategies into practice, including but not limited to: disaster, pandemic, contingency, strike/lock out, threat, supply/service disruptions.

Standard 2: A Natural Nutritionist communicates and interacts clearly and effectively with individuals and groups.

Indicators:

1. Adapts verbal and written communication styles to meet the needs and level of understanding of others.
2. Uses appropriate information gathering skills to compile accurate, comprehensive and relevant information, including but not limited to: interviews, meetings, surveys, assessment tools.
3. Provides education to meet the learning needs of clients, groups and others, including but not limited to: clients, care givers, students, other professionals, employees.
4. Facilitates teamwork, including but not limited to: clients, care givers, agencies, employees, colleagues, other professionals.
5. Uses effective counseling and listening skills.

Standard 3: A Natural Nutritionist applies current research and best practice findings when delivering services.

Indicators:

1. Demonstrates competence in all areas of current practice.
2. Acquires and applies new knowledge, skills and abilities to all areas of practice.
3. Acts as a credible and reliable source of current food, nutrition, supplement and healthy lifestyle information.
4. Applies critical thinking skills in problem solving and decision making.
5. Manages change in professional practice.

Standard 4: A Natural Nutritionist practicing in the area of direct client care effectively provides services to achieve appropriate wellness goals.

Indicators:

1. Uses a client centered approach.
2. Collaborates with others, including subject matter experts and colleagues, to contribute to client care.
3. Assesses nutritional imbalances and weaknesses in order to help support unique nutritional requirements.
4. Identifies wellness goals and educates on how best to achieve planned outcomes.
5. Coordinates implementation of protocols.
6. Assesses client progress in achieving planned outcomes.
7. Educates client to make proper food choices and encourages discussion regarding choices with doctor so that responsibility for wellness is centered with the individual.
8. Refers clients to other professionals and/or agencies as needed.

Standard 5: A Natural Nutritionist practicing in the area of community and population health effectively provides food and nutrition initiatives that meet the needs of individuals and communities.

Indicators:

1. Provides nutritional health promotion and disease prevention information, including but not limited to: food, food security, supplement and lifestyle choices.
2. Consults with and provides nutrition information to appropriate individuals and groups, including but not limited to: individuals, groups, schools, agencies, other professionals.
3. Conducts needs assessments and utilizes the data to aid in the planning, development, implementation and evaluation of nutritional and wellness programs.