

July 31, 2020

**VIA EMAIL:** [president@npac-aiipc.org](mailto:president@npac-aiipc.org)

Ms. Lenora Brace  
Nurse Practitioners Association of Canada  
309 Burris Road, RR 1  
Brookfield, NS B0N 1C0

Dear Ms. Brace:

Thank you for your letter. Pacific Blue Cross recognizes and appreciates the work and expertise of our nurse practitioners in working together to improve health access, reduce health care costs and improve health outcomes for Canadians.

Our health and dental policies include language that recognizes nurse practitioners as qualified health care providers. Any referrals, requests and/or prescriptions recommended by nurse practitioners, within the scope of their license, are accepted. We are currently working on improving the language in our disability policies to better recognize nurse practitioners in our definitions of health providers. As we work toward updating that language in the policy, our disability claims team does review any recommendations provided by nurse practitioners; and similar to industry practice, accepts any recommendations within scope of their license.

While we recognize the immense role of nurse practitioners in our health system and continue to promote it with all our groups, Plan Sponsors who fund their own health insurance or disability plans have the ability to set requirements related to health care providers and coverage of certain benefits. Most of our Plan Sponsors do accept nurse practitioners' recommendations, but some do not. I encourage any members whose claims are rejected to connect with their disability specialist for guidance.

Pacific Blue Cross is committed to ensuring that our policies and processes align with industry and legislative changes and continue to promote practices and services that improve health and wellbeing for British Columbians. Thank you again for connecting with me and we look forward to continue working with our nurse practitioner partners.

Sincerely,

**PACIFIC BLUE CROSS**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Crawford".

John D. Crawford, FCPA, FCA  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Hon Minister - Adrian Dix, British Columbia Minister of Health, [a.dix@leg.bc.ca](mailto:a.dix@leg.bc.ca)  
Hon Minister - Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, [Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Patty.Hajdu@parl.gc.ca)