



Nurse Practitioner
Association of Canada

Association des
infirmières et infirmiers
praticiens du Canada

October 18, 2020

The Right Honourable Marco E. L. Mendicino, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Minister@cic.gc.ca

Dear Minister Mendicino,

We would like to thank and commend you and your ministry for your leadership throughout the pandemic. As a result of your efforts, your government's efforts have helped Canadians unite with their families during these very unprecedented times.

We are writing to you with the recommendation **that Nurse Practitioners be added as health professional panel members of the Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Migration Health Branch**, for the purposes of conducting immigration medical examinations.

Nurse Practitioners are advanced practice nurses who integrate clinical skills associated with nursing and medicine in order to assess, diagnose and manage patients in primary care health care settings and acute care populations as well as ongoing care for populations with chronic illness (International Council of Nurses, 2020).

Nurse Practitioners possess the education, competence and legislated authority to autonomously diagnose, prescribe, treat and manage acute and chronic physical and mental illnesses. Many nurse Practitioners are already providing primary care and other health care services within refugee populations, in addition to contributing to a significant amount of research within this group.

Nurse Practitioners:

- analyze, synthesize and apply evidence to make decisions about a clients' health care
- provide a comprehensive range of health services grounded in professional, ethical and legal standards within a holistic model of care

- work collaboratively with clients to establish measurable goals and improve health outcomes.

From their work within these populations, nurse practitioners possess an understanding of the contextual realities this population faces, including challenges associated with access to health care, and the many other social determinants of health, all of which have all become amplified within the setting of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Nurse Practitioners are prepared to support IRCC and its efforts to promote timely, accessible immigration medical examinations for its applicants.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your ministry to support the IRCC mandate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lenora Brace".

Lenora Brace, MN, NP
President
Nurse Practitioner Association of Canada
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