



## **POSITION STATEMENT ON REGISTERED PSYCHIATRIC NURSES IN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE**

March 2007

Independent Practice is the application of psychiatric nursing knowledge and principles in an unsupervised, self-employment setting in psychiatric nursing practice and/or psychiatric nursing services. Registered Psychiatric Nurses in Independent Practice must adhere to the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta Standards of Psychiatric Nursing Practice, Code of Ethics, and the Alberta Health Professions Act.

The Registered Psychiatric Nurse in Independent Practice:

- Must be an active/practicing registrant with the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta.
- Is solely responsible for his/her psychiatric nursing practice.
- May include the provision of independent, interdependent and dependent psychiatric nursing practice through an agency or business.
- Is required to carry additional malpractice liability insurance for adequate coverage of their practice as indicated in the *Health Professions Act (2000)*, “Registered Psychiatric and Mental Deficiency Nurses Profession Regulation”.

Independent psychiatric nursing practice may occur in the domains of:

- 1) Direct Practice
- 2) Education
- 3) Administration
- 4) Research

**The Competencies for Registered Psychiatric Nurses in Independent Practice are identified in *Registered Psychiatric Nurses: Competency Profile for the Profession in Canada (2001) Competency L-9 “Psychiatric Nursing in Independent Practice”*. (Attached) Available on our website [www.crpna.ab.ca](http://www.crpna.ab.ca)**

## References

Alberta Health And Wellness & Registered Psychiatric Nurses Of Canada.

(2001). *Registered Psychiatric Nurses: Competency Profile For The*

*Profession In Canada*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Health and Wellness.

College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta (2007). Code of Ethics & Standards of Practice.

Government of Alberta (2000). *Health Professions Act (2000)*. Edmonton, AB: Alberta Queen's Printer.

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