
NSCNR Position Statement

Issue Date: August 19, 2026

Use of the Terms "Naturopathic Medicine" and "Medicine" by Naturopaths licensed with NSCNR

Naturopaths licensed with NSCNR may use the term **"Naturopathic Medicine"** to describe their profession or services, provided it is clearly presented as **Naturopathic Medicine**.

Naturopaths must ensure their public communications do not suggest or could reasonably mislead the public to believe that they are practicing "medicine" in any capacity or represent themselves as a Medical Doctor/physician. This includes implying qualifications or specialty designations that they do not hold or are protected under the Nova Scotia Medical Act. For further clarity, although there are permitted areas of advanced practice for naturopaths, there are currently no NSCNR-recognized naturopathic specialties.

Examples of unacceptable terms or titles include, but are not limited to:

- Sports Medicine
- Naturopathic Medical Doctor (or Naturopathic MD)
- Naturopathic Sports Medicine
- Gynecological Naturopath
- Naturopathic haematology

While naturopaths must not represent themselves as specialists, they may describe their practice as having a particular area of focus. Acceptable descriptions include, but are not limited to:

- Licensed naturopath with a focus on stress and sleep
- Licensed naturopath with a special interest in fertility and reproductive health
- Licensed naturopath supporting healthy aging and wellness
- Licensed naturopath with a practice focus in digestive health
- Licensed naturopath who works primarily with patients seeking support for women's health

Should you have any questions regarding the appropriate use of professional titles or terminology, please contact the NSCNR office before publishing or updating public-facing materials or signage.