



On July 1, 2020, Bill C-4 (the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement Implementation Act) came into effect after receiving Royal Assent on March 13, 2020. This Act makes amendments to section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act regarding the prohibition on the distribution of drugs as samples.

Amendments to the Food and Drug Regulations (FDR) now permit the distribution of drugs samples to a “practitioner” and the further distribution of drugs samples by the practitioner to patients. FDR defines a “practitioner” as a person who is entitled under the laws of a province or territory to treat patients with a prescription drug.

**As a result, nurse practitioners (NPs) in Nova Scotia are now permitted to provide drug samples to clients effective July 1, 2020.**

[Click here for more information from the Order in Council.](#) If you have any questions, please contact a Practice Consultant at [practice@nscn.ca](mailto:practice@nscn.ca).

First published July 2020 as Legislation Changes Enable Nurse Practitioners to Provide Drug Samples: Professional Practice Bulletin

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