

An independent practice nurse is defined as “ A registered nurse who provides professional nursing services, as a proprietor of a business, through direct patient care, education, research, administration or consultation.”

Nurse Entrepreneurship - Seizing the Challenge by Carol L. Hamilton

Independent Practice Nurses History

For years registered nurses traditionally worked in health care institutions, public health settings, research, and government services, where they've had significant contact and professional interactions with other health care professionals.

Today's society is shifting towards a new trend in meeting health care needs. There is a growing demand for community, family and individual health care. The new health care focuses on prevention, education, health protection and health maintenance. The public pressure is increasing daily for a wider variety of health care services and skilled health care providers to meet the needs of this new health conscious society.

Many registered nurses are stepping forward to meet this new community health care need. These independent practice registered nurses are creating innovative new professional health care settings and new direction, through the management and administration of health care for their clients. This is an exciting change from the traditional professional nursing role.

Now is the time for all Independent Practice Nurses to join together. You are invited to become a member of the Independent Practice Nurses provincial interest group part of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) and join others in a voice for your future.

Independent Practice Nurses Mission Statement

IPN will promote awareness and access to independent practice nursing services through professional recognition, political and social action and public awareness. IPN's mission is to enhance your work experience.

IPN Objectives

IPN objectives are:

- To establish and develop innovative ways to enhance the role of the independent practice nurses.
- To encourage excellence in professional nursing care that meets or exceeds the required professional nursing standards.
- To create best practice guidelines research for professional practice.
- To promote to the community greater awareness and need for quality health care delivered by independent practice nurses.
- To gain recognition for Independent Practice Nurses within the established health care system.

Independent Practice Nurses

IPN membership activities include:

- Developing and implementing professional practice standards
- Networking amongst members and with other health care providers
- Increasing public awareness and building partnerships
- Building business skills, marketing strategies and operation guidelines
- Creating educational opportunities and funding resources
- Encouraging research and journal submissions
- Strengthening their professional recognition as registered nurses in independent practice within the community health care system
- Influencing political agenda for needed social and health care reform
- Supporting the implementation of professional and business insurance protection

IPN is committed to assisting its members in all of these areas

Independent Practice Nurses Make the Difference.