



ALBERTA

Office of the Minister of Health  
Office of the Minister of Seniors  
MLA, Edmonton-Glenora

**M.O. 33/2016**

WHEREAS section 3.1 of Schedule 7.1 of the *Government Organization Act* states “[f]or the purposes of preventing, combating or alleviating a public health emergency as defined in the *Public Health Act*, the Minister may by order authorize a person or category of persons to perform one or more restricted activities subject to any terms or conditions the Minister may prescribe”;

WHEREAS section 1(hh.1) of the *Public Health Act* defines a “public health emergency” to mean “an occurrence or threat of (i) an illness, (ii) a health condition, (iii) an epidemic or pandemic disease, (iv) a novel or highly infectious agent or biological toxin, or (v) the presence of a chemical agent or radioactive material that poses a significant risk to the public health”;

WHEREAS the Minister has determined that the increasing number of overdoses as a result of the use of the drug fentanyl is a health condition that necessitates action to prevent a “public health emergency” as defined in the *Public Health Act*;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has established a plan for increasing access to the drug naloxone, one method of treatment if an overdose occurs;

WHEREAS part of that plan has included expanding the scope of practice of registered nurses currently regulated under the *Health Professions Act* and the *Registered Psychiatric And Mental Deficiency Nurses Profession Regulation* in a timely manner;

WHEREAS Ministerial Order (M.O.) 08/2016, issued on February 10, 2016, which authorized the expanded the scope of practice of registered psychiatric nurses, currently regulated under the *Health Professions Act* and the *Registered Psychiatric And Mental Deficiency Nurses Profession Regulation*, to prescribe naloxone, is set to expire on July 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to extend the authorization of the expanded scope of practice beyond July 1, 2016;

THEREFORE, I, SARAH HOFFMAN, Minister of Health, pursuant to section 3.1 of Schedule 7.1 of the *Government Organization Act*, hereby:

1. Authorize all registered psychiatric nurses registered on the registered psychiatric nurse register who hold a current practice permit with the college of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta to perform the following restricted activity, on the terms and condition set out in Appendix A: to prescribe, within the meaning of the *Pharmacy and Drug Act*, Naloxone.

2. Repeal M.O. 08/2016

This Order takes effect upon signing and expires on January 31, 2017.

DATED AT EDMONTON, Alberta, this 10 day of May, 2016.

  
SARAH HOFFMAN  
MINISTER

**Appendix A**

**Terms and Conditions Applicable to Performance of the Restricted Activity  
Authorized in this Ministerial Order**

- An authorized person may only perform the activity authorized by this Ministerial Order for the purpose of prescribing the drug naloxone.
- An authorized person may only perform the activity authorized by this Ministerial Order once they have successfully completed the educational requirements which have been authorized by the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta.
- An authorized person may only perform the activity authorized by this Ministerial Order once they have met any other criteria required by the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta.