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| Title : Categories of Diagnostic and Referral Protocols | | NUR-CCHC-SOP-001 |
| Document Path: : Community Clinics and Health Centres Documents/Policies & Procedures/Scope of Practice | | |
| Approved By: VP of Nursing | | Version: 1.0 |
| Effective Date: 30/09/2016 | Status: Current | Page 1 of 2 |

Policy Name: Categories of Diagnostic and Referral Protocols

Purpose:

To provide Regional Registered Nurses with an outline of the diagnostic test and referrals they can initiate within their scope of practice.

Policy / Standard:

The standard established is alignment with the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch Clinical Practice Guidelines for Nurses in Primary Care.

Regional Registered Nurses will follow the Categories of Diagnostic and Referral Protocols for Regional Registered Nurses as part of their Scope of Practice.

Materials Required:

[FNIHB Clinical Practice Guidelines for Nurses in Primary Care](#)

[FNIHB Pediatric Clinical Practice Guidelines for Nurses in Primary Care](#)

[Labrador Grenfell Health Categories of Diagnostic and Referral Protocols for Regional Nurses](#)

Related Policies:

[Clinical Practice Guidelines](#)

[Regional Registered Nurse Scope of Practice](#)

Procedure:

Regional Registered Nurses will comply with protocols when ordering diagnostic test and initiating referrals.

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Definitions:

Regional Registered Nurse: Works in a geographically isolated facility, assuming a high level of autonomy and responsibility, and exercises considerable judgment and initiative in performing client care. The Regional Registered Nurse follows Clinical Practice Guidelines for Primary Care Nurse for communicating diagnosis, ordering diagnostic tests, dispensing medications and consulting with other health professionals. This is accomplished by completing comprehensive clinical assessments and using complex problem-solving skills, advanced interpersonal skills, and clinical expertise

References:

Health, F. N. (2012). *First Nations & Inuit Health: Adult Care*. Retrieved 09 08, 2016, from Health Canada: <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/services/nurs-infirm/clin/adult/index-eng.php>