

Standard 2: Knowledge-Based Practice

FAQ: What is My Accountability as a Preceptor or Mentor?

Q. I have been asked by my manager to be a preceptor for a newly graduated registered nurse (RN). What is my professional accountability?

A. The opportunity to become a preceptor and support an RN who is new to the profession can be a rewarding experience for both you and the new graduate. Supportive practice environments that encourage new graduates to feel welcome, safe, valued, respected and nurtured will ease their transition into practice and help support the delivery of safe, ethical and quality health care.

In the context of being a preceptor, Standard 2 indicator 2.8 of the 2019 *Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses* states that an RN supports clients, colleagues and students by sharing nursing knowledge and expertise and by acting as an effective role model, resource, preceptor or mentor. As you can see, serving as an effective preceptor for a graduate nurse or a newly graduated RN is part of meeting your obligation as a self-regulated professional.

Being a preceptor or a mentor can be both rewarding and challenging. If you feel you need support to be effective in your role as a preceptor, you should discuss your learning needs with your manager. Your organization may have supports both internally and externally to help you be effective in your role. In addition you can see the following NANB documents for support:

- [Guidelines for Supporting Learners in the Workplace](#)
- [Entry-Level Competencies for Registered Nurses in New Brunswick](#)

For more information on **Knowledge-Based Practice**, continue to explore **Standard 2** within the 2019 [Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses](#). If you have questions about your accountabilities as a **preceptor or mentor** or in meeting this standard of practice, please contact a Nurse Consultant at nanb@nanb.nb.ca or call (506)458-8731, Toll-free 1-800-442-4417.