



Guideline for BC HCA Program Students - Medication Delivery

The [BC Care Aide and Community Health Worker Registry](#) (the Registry) recommends that [recognized BC Health Care Assistant Programs](#) put policies in place to clarify HCA students' role during practice education placements in relation to assisting with medications.¹

It is important that any such policies highlight that students should only be allowed to assist with medication delivery during clinical placements² where they are under the direct supervision of a fully qualified HCA Clinical Instructor designated by the educational institution.³ Any such policies must also be in alignment with the role of the HCA and policies in place at clinical placement sites; it is the responsibility of the HCA Clinical Instructor, and the HCA student, to become informed about and abide by such policies. While on practicum and /or preceptored placements, where HCA students are being supported by an onsite mentor and are without the direct supervision of a HCA Clinical Instructor, they should not be permitted to assist with medication delivery.

Important Note: BC HCA practice education placement sites are encouraged to refer to the [BC HCA Provincial Curriculum Guide \(2015\)](#) to confirm the medication-related education completed by graduates of recognized BC HCA Programs.

¹ Definition: Medications may include drugs/products prescribed by a care practitioner in the plan of care (e.g., enemas, eye drops, etc.).

² BC Care Aide and Community Health Worker Registry (2018), [Health Care Assistant Program Recognition, A Guide for Educators](#), 2nd Edition, p. 84.

³ Ibid., p. 79.