



April 16, 2014

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The Globe and Mail
444 Front St. W.
Toronto, ON M5V 2S9

RE: [Stroke survivors benefit from regular meetings with pharmacist: study](#), April 14

The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) thanks the *Globe and Mail* article for drawing attention to an important recent study on the outcomes for stroke survivors when meeting with pharmacists versus nurses.

Yet the reporting on the findings oversimplifies the issue Canadians should be most concerned about. There are in fact nurses who prescribe and who, like the pharmacists in the study, also face varying rules among provinces and territories and even among health facilities.

We must build upon these types of innovative research studies by scaling them up into nationwide solutions. CNA recommends that provinces and territories start by updating regulations to give nurses, pharmacists and other health-care providers consistent, standardized scopes of practice across the country. That way, all Canadians, in every province and territory, can reap the same benefits the study participants did from getting improved access to the care they need.

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