Human Resources Legislative Update

Nursing Act Amendments, Regulation To Expand Permissible Procedures

Date: September 6, 2011

On August 19, 2011, the Ontario government filed regulatory amendments under the *Nursing Act, 1991* that, in part, expand the range of procedures that may be provided by registered nurses who hold an extended certificate of registration in accordance with the regulations.

O. Reg. 387/11 and parallel amendments to the Act will expand the ability of such nurses to provide and communicate a medical diagnosis to patients or their representatives, and permit them to perform certain medical procedures, including:

- procedures below the dermis or mucous membranes;
- prescribing, dispensing, compounding or selling a drug;
- setting or casting a fracture of a bone or dislocation of a joint; and
- the administration of a substance by injection or inhalation.

O. Reg. 387/11, and the amendments to the Act outlined in 18(7) of the Regulated Health Professions Statute Law Amendment Act, 2009, come into force on October 1, 2011.