

REGISTERED PSYCHIATRIC NURSE



WHAT THEY DO

Registered psychiatric nurses (also known as RPNs) complete health histories and mental status assessments, administer and assess the effects of medications, respond to observed behavioral changes, and implement strategies to promote optimal mental health, physical health, and overall well-being of their patients. RPNs also provide education on a range of mental health and addiction topics to a variety of audiences and provide assistance in the evaluation/assessment of client-related physical health problems, issues and questions.

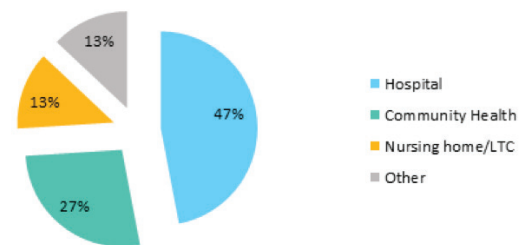
HOW THEY WORK

Registered psychiatric nurses spend much of their time in direct contact with patients and are employed at a number of different facilities including hospitals, community clinics, corrections and mental health facilities. During the course of their work, registered psychiatric nurses may be exposed to blood, bodily fluids, infectious diseases, chemicals and other safety hazards. Registered psychiatric nurses can also be exposed to potentially violent and aggressive situations when working with patients.

TRAINING

To become an RPN you must complete a diploma specializing in psychiatric nursing. MacEwan University is the only Alberta-based training program for Registered Psychiatric Nurses. Registered Psychiatric Nurses are regulated by the College & Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta.

Employment Setting RPNs



RPNs in Alberta 2019 (CIHI Nursing Chart Book <https://www.cihi.ca/en/nursing-in-canada-2019>)

Type of Provider in Alberta 2019	All Regulated Nurses	Licensed Practical Nurses
SUPPLY	53,340	1,349
% CHANGE SINCE 2018	+1.9	+1.1
RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION	-	31
WORKING IN RURAL/REMOTE SETTINGS	12%	25.4%

RESOURCES

REGULATORY BODY:

College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta - <https://www.nurses.ab.ca/>

ALBERTA ALIS PROFILE:

<https://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta/occupation-profiles/psychiatric-nurse/>

AHS CAREER PROFILE:

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/careers/Page11734.aspx>