

SCOPE newsletter

October 2018



SASKATCHEWAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY PROFESSIONALS

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Coming Soon – MicroSCOPE!

SCPP is pleased to announce the upcoming launch of a new newsletter called MicroSCOPE. The current SCOPE newsletter is typically published following Council meetings. The new “micro” newsletter is designed to supplement SCOPE to provide more timely information to members.

MicroSCOPE will be shorter and more frequent than SCOPE, allowing for current news, alerts and continuing education to be timelier. The newsletter is still under construction but can be expected in the coming months.

Note: SCPP considers both newsletters to be official sources of regulatory information and updates regarding the practice of pharmacy in Saskatchewan.

Staff Additions

The College would like to introduce and welcome three new staff members who began this fall.

Chantal Lambert, Assistant Registrar – Complaints Director and Field Officer

Chantal Lambert began her new role on October 9, 2018. She has worked in community pharmacy in Alberta from 2006 to 2014 as both a staff pharmacist and pharmacy manager. In 2014, Chantal began working for the Alberta College of Pharmacy as a professional practice consultant until 2017, when she moved back home to Saskatchewan to work as the University of Saskatchewan’s Structured Practice Experience Program Coordinator.



Kim Samoila, Policy Analyst

Kim joined the College on a part-time basis beginning September 5, 2018. She holds a Bachelor of Administration and a Master of Public Administration. With solid analyst experience gained in her previous role with the government, Kim is helping SCPP develop policy regarding professional practice as it pertains to pharmacy.

Meaghan Underwood, Administrative Assistant – COMPASS

Meaghan started with SCPP on September 10, 2018. She has significant experience on databases and systems. In her last position, Meaghan helped her workplace create and implement a new database. Her role with the College includes helping to implement the new Quality Improvement Review process and ongoing COMPASS/field officer administration support.



SCPP COUNCIL 2017-2018**PRESIDENT**

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Marilyn Younghans, Lloydminster

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Mark Hawkins, Regina
Michael Lummerding, St. Brieux
George Thomas, Regina**PHARMACY TECHNICIAN****OBSERVERS**

Lyndsay Brakstad, Tisdale

STUDENT OBSERVER

Meghanne Rieder, Saskatoon

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – SEPTEMBER 26 & 27, 2018**Orientation for New Council Members**

On the evening of September 26, 2018, newly elected members of Council: Rod Amaya (Division 4), Brandon Krahn (Division 6) and Amy Wiebe (Division 8) and returning members of Council: Justin Kosar (President), Marilyn Younghans (President-Elect), Stephanie Miller (Vice-President), Bill Gerla (Past President), Bonnie Caven (public member), George Thomas (public member), Lyndsay Brakstad (pharmacy technician observer) and Meghanne Rieder (student observer), met for an orientation.

The orientation meeting allowed those in attendance an opportunity to learn about the College and Council, and to ask questions and gain insight from veteran councillors who shared valuable suggestions and tips.

Council convened for a meeting on September 27, 2018.

Environmental Scan

The environmental scan at each meeting allows councillors the opportunity to share feedback they have received from the public or colleagues within their division. Common themes were:

- Support by members for the banning of exempted codeine products
- Need for all pharmacies to create and maintain communication and collaboration with physicians regarding minor ailment prescribing
- Concerns with the completeness of prescriptions written for Prescription Review Program medications and the subsequent delays in patient care
- Need for improved communications with practitioners via facsimile and other methods, especially considering the recent Valsartan recall
- Continued challenges with the completeness and accuracy of hospital discharge orders
- Ongoing drug shortages and the challenges of finding alternative treatments, such as EpiPen®
- Incorporation of pharmacy technicians into both hospital and community pharmacy to their full scope of practice
- Need for continuing education on cannabis for medical use

Registrar's Report

Influenza immunizations will begin on October 22, 2018. This year, pharmacists will be able to provide flu immunizations to children five (5) years of age and older and to persons living in congregate living settings. Three hundred and forty five pharmacies will be participating in the immunization program this year – up from 318 in 2017. The 2017 flu season saw 317,487 patients immunized in Saskatchewan with 118,514 immunizations given by pharmacists.

SCPP reluctantly accepted the resignation of our PIP Data Quality Coordinator, Perry Hermanson, in July 2018. The College sincerely thanks Perry for all his hard work and dedication towards ensuring the ongoing and continuous improvement of PIP data quality in Saskatchewan pharmacies.

The Saskatchewan Medical Association (SMA) held a symposium on June 18, 2018 in Saskatoon called "Patients Medical Home Symposium" to present the Medical Home model. The five pillars of the model presented were: Accessible Care, Continuity of Care, Patient and Family Centered Care, Comprehensive Team-Based Care with Physician Leadership and Social Accountability. Pharmacists were emphasized as an essential member of the care team. Inspiring videos were provided to the group, which can be viewed [here](#).

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SCPP STAFF

NICHOLAS FATTORE

Pharmacy Practice Consultant

PAT GUILLEMIN

Pharmacy Permits and Systems Manager

RAY JOUBERT

Associate Registrar

DARLENE KING

Reception and Office Operations Coordinator

CHANTAL LAMBERT

Assistant Registrar – Complaints Director and Field Officer

CHRISTINA MCPHERSON

Administrative Assistant to the Deputy Registrar

HEATHER NEIRINCK

Registration and Systems Administrator

LORI POSTNIKOFF

Deputy Registrar

KIM SAMOILA

Policy Analyst

JEANNETTE SANDIFORD

Assistant Registrar – Field Operations and COMPASS Lead

TAMI SCHWEBIUS

Complaints Manager

BRITTANY SHARKEY

Professional Affairs Administrator Certified Compounding Inspector

AUDREY SOLIE

Registration Administrator

MEAGHAN UNDERWOOD

Administrative Assistant – COMPASS

INGRID WAKEFIELD

Executive Assistant to the Registrar

JEANA WENDEL

Registrar

CHERYL WYATT

Communications Coordinator

Council Highlights – continued from page 2

The Saskatchewan Health Authority continues to work towards improved health outcomes in the community and decreased hospital admissions within the Primary Health Care model. The four key areas of focus are hypertension, diabetes, asthma and COPD, and HIV/AIDS/Harm reduction.

Strategic Goal: Advancing Public Safety in Pharmacy Services

1. Increase use of a standardized quality assurance process

COMPASS has been implemented and pharmacies have been reporting medication incidents into the Community Pharmacy Incident Reporting (CPIR) system and have completed the Medication Safety Self-Assessment (MSSA).

A new process of pharmacy reviews called Quality Improvement Reviews (QIRs) is being developed to monitor the COMPASS program via virtual visits. Watch the College newsletters for more information.

2. Introduce a competency assurance program to support quality assurance by 2018

The Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP) has agreed to help SCPP develop a competency assurance program and has obtained the services of Karen Jensen upon her retirement from medSask.

A new Competency Assurance Committee will be formed to assist with the program development.

Council Structure

Council continues to work on the development of a new Council structure based on best practices within Board governance.

New Committee Member Appointments

Council appointed two new members to the Complaints Committee: Manan Patel (Moose Jaw) and Jenna Soehn (Saskatoon), and three new members to the Discipline Committee: Eric Pederson (Melfort), Lyle Brandt (Regina) and Cheryl Lalonde (Martensville).

Changes to the Pharmacist Assessment Record (PAR)

Changes have been made to update the Pharmacist Assessment Record (PAR). SCPP wishes to remind members to complete the PAR and to ensure proper follow up is completed for minor ailments as per the [minor ailment guidelines](#). The College also wishes to remind members that they must obtain informed consent for any professional service provided.

Travel Health

The College continues to work with Population Health Branch and Public Health on a framework for the delivery of travel health services within pharmacies and to review feedback provided on the bylaws and framework document.

Exempted Codeine Products

Council reviewed new information from Health Canada regarding a recent survey of exempted codeine products. Council confirmed its commitment to ban the sale of exempted codeine products in Saskatchewan during 2019.

Continued next page

Dietary and Nutritional Products in Pharmacy

Letters of concern regarding dietary and nutritional products sold in community pharmacies were reviewed, as well as the promotion and advertising of these products.

In May 2018, the College provided members with "[Retail Nutrition Products: Foods, Dietary Supplements and Natural Health Products. A Joint Statement from Saskatchewan Dietitians Association – Dietitians of Canada – Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals.](#)" The College wishes to remind members that promotion and advertising of any product or service must adhere to the following SCPP Regulatory Bylaws:

1. Subsection 1(8) of Part H – Code of Ethics
1(8) A member shall be governed in advertising practices by highly professional integrity.
2. Section 17 of Part J – Advertising
To read section 17, visit: [Conditions of Sale for Drugs and Related Requirements for Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians and Pharmacies](#)
3. Section 12 of Part N – Advertising
12 Where a licensed member advertises to the general public a Schedule I drug, the licensed member shall not make any representation other than with respect to the brand name, proper name, common name, price and quantity of the drug.

Report from the Complaints Committee

The Complaints Committee met on June 6, 2018 and September 12, 2018. In June, 14 files were reviewed with one referred to the Discipline Committee. Seven files were closed and six remain open for continued investigation. In September, 17 files were reviewed with two files referred to the Discipline Committee. Five files were closed and 10 files remain open for continued investigation.

Council's next meeting will be held in Regina on December 13 and a joint meeting with The Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan and The Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists will be held on December 14, 2018.

Smoking Cessation Pharmacist Self-Care Prescribing Training Session

Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP) will be holding a Smoking Cessation Pharmacist Self-Care Prescribing training session on Wednesday, December 5 from 7 to 9 p.m. The session will be held at the University of Saskatchewan, and there will also be live-streaming and recorded versions available. After the training session, the medSask guidelines will be published, and pharmacists will be able to prescribe smoking cessation products.

MISSION

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals serves the public interest by regulating the profession of pharmacy to provide safe, competent pharmacy care in Saskatchewan.

VISION

Advancing quality pharmacy care for a healthier Saskatchewan

VALUES

Professionalism

Accountability

Visionary Leadership

Collaboration

Education

GOALS

Advancing Public Safety in Pharmacy Services

Ensuring Priorities and Resources are aligned to Achieve Goals

Maintaining a Self-Regulated Profession

Increasing Recognition of Pharmacy Professionals as Essential Members of the Health Care Team

Supporting Health Care Public Policy

Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) November 1

As a reminder, the federal government's [Regulations for the Monitoring of Medical Assistance in Dying](#) come into force on November 1, 2018.

On June 17, 2016, [An Act to amend the Criminal Code and to make related amendments to other Acts \(medical assistance in dying\)](#) came into force, allowing physicians and nurse practitioners to provide MAID to eligible Canadians. Federal monitoring, which refers to the collection and analysis of MAID data, is a critical feature of the legislation and reflects the seriousness of MAID as an exemption to the criminal laws that prohibit ending a human life.

The *Regulations* support the collection of consistent, comprehensive information on MAID across the country by setting out reporting requirements for physicians and nurse practitioners who provide this service and pharmacists who dispense the necessary drugs. More information is available on the Government of Canada [website](#).

The Ministry of Health, along with the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), various regulatory bodies and stakeholders have been working on developing a standardized provincial program for MAID within the province of Saskatchewan to ensure safe and consistent standards for the people of Saskatchewan. The decision in Saskatchewan was to have all of the required federal documentation submitted by pharmacists to a designated recipient who would then be responsible to submit the information to Health Canada. In Saskatchewan, the designated recipient is the SHA. The College supports the centralized provincial model of MAID under the SHA and as such expects our members to provide the provisions of MAID as per the policies set forth by the SHA. The SHA will communicate these policies and procedures directly to pharmacists who work within the SHA, as the provincial model will restrict the dispensing of medications for MAID to be within hospital pharmacies.

SCPP wishes to inform pharmacists of the following requirements regarding MAID:

- 1) Due to the legal interpretation of authorized practices within our legislation, pharmacists **are not** able to delegate any duties regarding MAID to pharmacy technicians as pharmacy technicians would be left vulnerable and exposed with respect to the Criminal Code.
- 2) Pharmacists are required under [s. 241.31 of the Criminal Code](#) to file the information required in the regulations within the specified timeframes. A practitioner or pharmacist who knowingly fails to comply with this requirement could face a maximum term of imprisonment of two years.
- 3) The SHA has standard oral and injectable prescription protocol forms that must be used. These forms contain the mandatory provincial and federal reporting requirements and must be completed in full and submitted to the SHA within 30 days after the day the substance was dispensed. Again, the SHA will be providing detailed operational practices to members that will be involved with provisions of MAID.
- 4) If Health Canada, or a provincial or territorial designated recipient, becomes aware of failures to apply the eligibility requirements or safeguards in the Criminal Code, or continued or egregious omissions in reports, a situation could be referred to law enforcement.
- 5) Personal information regarding practitioners and pharmacists is collected to link reports about the same patient, and to enable follow up in case of unclear or missing information. Health Canada and Statistics Canada are subject to the federal Privacy Act with respect to the collection, retention, use and disposal of personal information.
- 6) Amendments have been made to the Health Information Protection Regulations, which will come into effect on November 1, 2018. These regulations will:
 - a. Allow a trustee to disclose personal health information for the purpose of complying with an Act of the Parliament of Canada or any regulation pursuant to an Act of the Parliament of Canada;
 - b. Allow a trustee to disclose personal health information to a committee established by the provincial health authority to review or study requests for, or the delivery of services associate with, medical assistance in dying; and
 - c. Amend and update relevant sections to strike out the term "regional health authority" and replace it with "provincial health authority" and to strike out the term "Department" and replace it with "Ministry."

SCPP will be updating the current [MAID practice guidelines](#) on the College's website over the next few weeks as more information and documents become available.

Regulatory Bylaw Amendment

The following bylaw pertaining to pharmacy technicians was approved by the Minister of Health on September 18, 2018, and printed in The Saskatchewan Gazette on September 28, 2018.

Under authority of subclauses 14(2)(a)(i), (ii) and clause 14(2)(a.i) and in accordance with subsection 15(1) of *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act*, the regulatory bylaws of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals, are amended as follows:

PART D - MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION – PHARMACY TECHNICIANS

Pharmacy Technician Training Program Graduates

3 Any person who has:

- (a) graduated from a pharmacy technician training program on or before December 31, 2018 that has been accredited by the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs, completed 2000 hours or more of experience in pharmacy practice within the past three years, successfully completed the Structured Practical Skills Assessment or equivalent program as approved by Council and has completed the internship requirement pursuant to sections 2 and 3 of Part B may register as a conditional practicing member, upon completing the prescribed form, paying the prescribed fee(s), providing evidence of meeting the language proficiency requirements as set by Council, and completing the jurisprudence examination required by Council, until such time as he provides evidence of holding a Certificate of Qualification from the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada;
- (b) graduated from a pharmacy technician training program that has been accredited by the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs, has not completed 2000 hours or more of experience in pharmacy practice within the past three years, successfully completed the Structured Practical Training and Assessment Program or equivalent program as approved by Council and has completed the internship requirement pursuant to sections 2 and 3 of Part B may register as a conditional practicing member, upon completing the prescribed form, paying the prescribed fee(s), providing evidence of meeting the language proficiency requirements as set by Council, and completing the jurisprudence examination required by Council, until such time as he provides evidence of holding a Certificate of Qualification from the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada;
- (c) graduated from or successfully completed a pharmacy technician training program on or before December 31, 2018 that has not been accredited by the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs, completed 2000 hours or more of experience in pharmacy practice within the past three years, successfully completed the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada Evaluating Examination, successfully completed the Bridging Education Program and the Structured Practical Skills Assessment or equivalent program as approved by Council, may register as a conditional practicing member, upon completing the prescribed form, paying the prescribed fee(s), providing evidence of meeting the language proficiency requirements as set by Council, and completing the jurisprudence examination required by Council, until such time as he provides evidence of holding a Certificate of Qualification from the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada;
- (d) graduated from or successfully completed a pharmacy technician training program that has not been accredited by the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs, and has not completed 2000 hours or more of experience within the past three years in pharmacy practice, may only apply for registration as a member upon successful completion of a pharmacy technician training program accredited by the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs, and may be registered as a member upon completion of the other requirements specified in clause 3(b) of Part D.
- (e) recently graduated from a pharmacy technician training program referred to in clause 3(a) of Part D; or recently graduated from or successfully completed a pharmacy technician training program referred to in clause 3(c) of Part D, application for registration as a member must be made by the earlier of: one year after the applicant has graduated; or December 31, 2019. Under extenuating circumstances Council may extend this time limit according to the terms and conditions prescribed by Council.

Transitional

3.1(1) On or before December 31, 2018, a person who is employed to perform the functions of a licensed pharmacy technician may be registered as a member and be granted a restricted licence to practice as a licensed pharmacy technician where the Registrar is satisfied that such person is competent to perform those functions. The licence will restrict the practice of the licensed pharmacy technician to those functions and within the employment classification, employment title or under the employer as the case may

be. After December 31, 2018 the Registrar may revoke the restricted licence if that member has not met the requirements for registration and licensure including providing evidence of holding a Certificate of Qualification from the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada.

This means that:

By December 31, 2018, pharmacy technician candidates must have successfully completed the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada Evaluating Examination. The National Pharmacy Technician Education Bridging Program offered through Selkirk College must also be successfully and fully completed.

By December 31, 2019, all pharmacy technician candidates must be registered. This means the additional

successful completion of: the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada Qualifying Examination, the structured practical training and the SCPP jurisprudence exam. All application forms and fees due to SCPP must also be fully paid and received in the office.

After December 31, 2019, the only pathway to register as a pharmacy technician in Saskatchewan will be to graduate from a Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) accredited educational program.

For more information, please refer to the SCOPe newsletter special edition published in February 2018 [here](#). Candidates who have questions about how the bylaw amendments may affect their situation are encouraged to contact the College office at SCPPRegistration.PHARMTECH@saskpharm.ca.

Reference Manual Documents Updates

NEW

- [Opioid Warning Sticker and Patient Information Handout Required to Accompany Dispensed Opioids](#)

UPDATED

- [Administration of Drugs by Injection Supplementary Guidelines for Pharmacists](#)
- [Self-Administered Injections Guidelines for Pharmacists](#)
- [Administration of Drugs by Injection and Other Routes Guidelines for Pharmacists](#)

Changes to Opioid Stickers and Patient Handout Requirements

Health Canada published an [important notice to stakeholders](#) on October 1, 2018 concerning the opioid warning sticker and patient handout requirements that comes into force on October 20, 2018.

Section 4.4 of the [guidance document](#) outlines when an opioid would not require the sticker and handout.



Call for SCPP Award Nominations

Deadline for SCPP Award Nominations – January 31, 2019

The SCPP Awards and Honours Committee is calling for nominations for their annual awards. These will be presented to members who have made a significant contribution to the pharmacy profession and/or community. Early submissions are appreciated.

You can nominate either your colleague(s) or yourself for any of the awards.

SCPP Certificate of Recognition

The SCPP Certificate of Recognition recognizes retiring Presidents, Councillors and committee members of SCPP for their dedication and contributions to the Council of SCPP. The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial or national level.

Presidential Citation

The Presidential Citation recognizes an SCPP member who has made special contributions to pharmacy and/or one outstanding contribution or a specific achievement that has enhanced the profession of pharmacy.

Member Emeritus Status (MESCPP)

Attention Retired SCPP Member(s): Have you previously been a practising or non-practising member of SCPP in good standing for at least 25 years? If so, you may be eligible to apply for the designation 'Member Emeritus Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals' or 'MESCPP'.

Any member on the Retired Register may be designated as a 'Member Emeritus' of the College and may use the designation 'Member Emeritus Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals' or 'MESCPP' if he can declare the following:

- has been a practising or non-practising member continually in good standing with the SCPP or other regulatory body for pharmacists for at least 25 years
- has not been found guilty of professional misconduct or professional incompetence
- understands that his name must remain on the Retired Register of SCPP
- has asked that his designation be confirmed by the Awards Committee of SCPP

NOTE: Where a member is ineligible pursuant to clause (b) herein, Council may, upon receipt of a written request giving reasons, determine that the member is eligible to be designated as a "Member Emeritus."

Emerald Achievement Award

The Emerald Achievement Award will go to a practising SCPP member in good standing for their dedication and service. The recipient must have been active in our profession for at least 35 years.

Honorary Life Member Award

An Honorary Life Member Award will be presented to recognize a member of SCPP for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or SCPP, beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations. An Honorary Life Member Award may be granted in recognition of:

- A distinguished record of professional service to the community;
- And/or outstanding contribution to SCPP;
- And/or a distinguished record of service to SCPP;
- And/or specific achievements that enhanced the profession;
- And/or long-term service to the profession with a distinguished record.

Honorary Life Members will have their annual personal membership fees waived but are responsible for all other conditions of membership.

SCPP Award of Merit

Available to the general public, this award recognizes any person, group or organization, who is not a member of the College, and who through his active participation has promoted SCPP and/or the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan. The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial, or national level.

Honorary Member Award

Available to the general public, this award recognizes any person for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or SCPP beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations.

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An Honorary Member award may be granted in recognition of:

- a) An outstanding single contribution to SCPP;
- b) And/or a distinguished record of service to SCPP;
- c) And/or a single specific achievement that enhanced the profession;
- d) And/or through long-term service to the profession with a distinguished record.

The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial, or national level.

Centennial Pharmacy Award

In 2011, SCPP celebrated its Centennial Anniversary. At that time, we invited all pharmacies celebrating their Centennial Anniversary in 2011 and those pharmacies in operation for more than 100 years to celebrate this milestone alongside the College by introducing a new award to recognize the great accomplishment.

SCPP would like to continue to recognize this achievement of operating as a pharmacy for 100 years by making the Centennial Pharmacy Award an annual award which will be given to those pharmacies who can document their roots back 100 years. In each coming year, SCPP will be looking for all Saskatchewan pharmacies that have been in continuous operation by the same or different owners for 100 years or more.

If your pharmacy is celebrating its centennial year, and your pharmacy's history can be traced back more than 100 years, the College would like to hear from you and asks that you forward an outline of your pharmacy's history, including ownership and key dates and changes. The College would also like to know of any outreach and involvement in your community that your pharmacy has done and/or continues to do.

Safety Excellence Award

SCPP Safety Excellence Awards may be presented to recognize a member of SCPP, or a group/organization that the member belongs, who has made a special contribution to pharmacy in the area of increasing safety with one outstanding contribution or a series of achievements that has enhanced patient or medication safety.

The Safety Excellence Award recognizes a special contribution that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- a) Demonstrates enhanced patient/medication safety
- b) Demonstrates safer medication practices
- c) Demonstrates a reduction in risk to patients
- d) Demonstrates innovation in continuous quality improvement in pharmacy practice

How to Nominate

Members are invited to nominate your colleague(s) and/or yourself for any of these awards. All nominations must be accompanied by a summary of the qualifications consistent with the terms of reference. For a list of who has received an award in the past, please visit [Member Awards](#) on the SCPP website under About Us.

Complete List of Awards and Criteria

Please [click here](#) for a complete list of awards and criteria, including nomination/application forms, which follow the Terms of Reference for each award. Forms may also be requested from the SCPP office.

Deadline

While the deadline for receipt of nominations for an SCPP award is January 31, 2019, the College is encouraging early submissions. In all cases, the final selection must be approved by the SCPP Council, following recommendation from the Awards and Honours Committee.



Notes from the Field

Truth in Advertising

SCPP has been asked about and informed of various promotions and advertisements by Saskatchewan pharmacies. The College wishes to remind members that all advertising must be in compliance with the SCPP regulatory bylaws as listed on page four and must be truthful in content.

The College is especially concerned about the promotion of prescription transfers and free influenza shots: not all medications can be transferred, and influenza shots are not free (they are free of charge to the patient as they are publicly funded).

Minor Ailments Pharmacist Assessment Record (PAR)

Changes have been made to update the Pharmacist Assessment Record.

The changes include:

Reviewed with patient:

- Option to have prescription filled at pharmacy of choice
- PAR will be communicated with patient's physician (if applicable) as part of collaborative health care team

Please review the changes on the [medSask website](#) and make use of the new PAR.

Pharmacist Follow up – Minor Ailments

When prescribing for minor ailments, the College wishes to remind pharmacists that they are expected to follow the [minor ailment guidelines](#) and ensure they are competent in their knowledge. Further to that, all components of the PAR must be completed including mandatory patient follow up and documentation of such on the PAR to ensure the minor ailment has indeed resolved itself or if a referral to a physician or nurse practitioner is required.

Recent Trends in Drug Misuse

Members are asked to be vigilant concerning suspected misuse of medications by the public, including the misuse of over-the-counter medications. It has been reported that youth may be misusing nicotine replacement products.

Unauthorized Personnel in the Dispensary

Members have undergone extensive training with regard to privacy and confidentiality issues arising from *The Health Information Protection Act* (HIPA). Surprisingly, the College does hear that members are continuing their practice of inviting high school students who may be thinking of a career in pharmacy into the dispensary to spend time shadowing the member. While SCPP understands this may be of benefit to the young person trying to make a career choice, members must remember their obligation to the patient.

From subsection 1(3) and 1(5) of Part H of the SCPP Regulatory Bylaws - Code of Ethics:

1(3) A member shall observe the law, particularly those affecting the practice of pharmacy; uphold the dignity of the Profession; strive for its betterment; maintain a high standard of ethics; and report to the proper authority, without fear or favour, any unethical or illegal conduct which may be encountered within the Profession.

1(5) A member shall protect the patient's right of confidentiality.

Look at this situation from the point of view of the patient:

1. Does Mrs. Smith (High School teacher) want one of her students seeing/hearing about her personal health information?
2. Does Mr. Jones expect that his personal health information would be viewed or overheard by the kid next door?

It would be impossible for someone to spend time in a pharmacy dispensary or the professional services area and not become aware of personal health information. These young people are not employees and, in most cases, would not be aware of, nor understand the confidentiality and privacy concerns; and that anything learned while in the pharmacy may become "common knowledge" in a very short time. A member's desire to share an understanding of the profession with a young person cannot override the trustee's responsibility, which is to keep all personal health information private.

Discipline Matters

The Discipline Committee considers the primary purpose of a discipline proceeding is the protection of the public and the pharmacy profession as a whole. The Discipline Committee is conscious of the fact that the public must have confidence in the profession's ability to regulate itself in a manner that protects the public.

All Decisions and Orders of the Discipline Committee are posted on the CanLII website in their entirety at www.canlii.org/en/sk/skcppdc.

Ryan Toth and Toth Pharmacy Ltd., operating as Kipling Pharmasave Decision

The direct link to the decision and order below is [here](#).

On June 19, 2018, the Discipline Committee was convened to consider charges that the respondents, **Mr. Ryan Toth** and **Toth Pharmacy Ltd.** operating as **Kipling Pharmasave** were guilty of professional misconduct and proprietary misconduct within the meaning of sections 25 and 26 of [The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act](#) (the "Act").

The hearing proceeded by an Agreed Statement of Facts, which included an admission by the member that his actions constituted professional misconduct. It was acknowledged by Mr. Toth, that under his pharmacy management, Toth Pharmacy Ltd.'s (operating as Kipling Pharmasave) operations and actions constituted proprietary misconduct.

As provided in the decision and order, the Agreed Statement of Facts described that Mr. Ryan Toth, the pharmacy manager of Kipling Pharmasave, had entered into a contract with the Sun Country Regional Health Authority to provide pharmaceutical services and medications to residents of the Willowdale Lodge in Kipling, Saskatchewan. The contract was from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016. Mr. Toth contracted that the professional dispensing fee charged to residents of the facility would be \$2.00.

Mr. Toth did not bill the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) of the Ministry of Health in the amount set out in the contract with the Sun Country Health Region at \$2.00, but billed DPEBB the maximum fee set out in the Proprietary Agreement in effect during the time frame of the contract with the Sun Country Health Region, contrary to clause 7.2 of the Proprietary Agreement. Upon notification of the breach of the Agreement, the DPEBB undertook a process to recover claims of \$32,796.95 for the period January 1, 2014 to February 6, 2016, from the proprietor, Toth Pharmacy Ltd. The decision and order states "This amount represents a significant pecuniary consequence to Mr. Toth and his pharmacy."

The decision and order further states in point 20 "... also serve as a cautionary tale. that it was not sufficient for Mr. Toth to merely rely upon the practices of his former employer. The Discipline Committee concurs with this view and emphasizes to all pharmacists, but particularly those new to the profession, that mere reliance upon the past practices of others is not satisfactory. One must make suitable inquiries to ensure both the understanding of and compliance with professional and contractual obligations."

The Order of the Discipline Committee included:

- That Mr. Toth be reprimanded;
- That Mr. Toth pay a fine of \$6,000.00;
- That Toth Pharmacy Ltd. pay a fine of \$16,000.00;
- That Mr. Toth and Toth Pharmacy Ltd. jointly and severally pay the costs of the hearing in the amount of \$17,340.00;
- All fines and costs are to be paid before January 1, 2019, or Mr. Toth's licence to practise pharmacy and the proprietary permit for Kipling Pharmacy will be suspended until such time as the fines and costs are paid in full.

Ankit Karbhari Decision

The direct link to the decision and order below is [here](#).

On June 19, 2018, the Discipline Committee was convened to consider charges that the respondent, **Mr. Ankit Karbhari**, was guilty of professional misconduct within the meaning of section 25 of [The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act](#) (the "Act").

As per the decision and order, the only charge set forth for consideration at the June 19, 2018 hearing was the charge set out in paragraph 3 of Appendix A, Notice of Hearing. This was the only charge applicable to Mr. Karbhari. The sole allegation set out in paragraph 3 was considered separate and apart from the other charges set out in the Notice of Hearing and the legal persons and entities named therein.

The hearing proceeded by an Agreed Statement of Facts, which included an admission by the member that his actions constituted professional misconduct.

As provided in the decision and order, the Agreed Statement of Facts described that Mr. Ankit Karbhari was the pharmacy manager of Balfour Drugs Ltd. operating as Balfour Drugs in Kipling, Saskatchewan from June 15, 2015 to March 10, 2017. Mr. Karbhari had entered into a contract with the Sun Country Regional Health Authority to provide pharmaceutical services and medications to residents of the Kipling Integrated Health Facility in Kipling, Saskatchewan. The contract was from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019. The contract Mr. Karbhari signed with the Sun Country Health Region indicated that the professional dispensing fee charged to residents of the facility would be \$2.00. Furthermore, Balfour Drugs Ltd. had already secured a contract with the Wawota Memorial Health Center prior to Mr. Karbhari becoming the pharmacy manager. The Wawota Memorial Health Center contract provided for a professional dispensing fee of \$2.50.

Mr. Karbhari did not bill the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) of the Ministry of Health in the amount set out in contract of the Kipling Integrated Health Facility with the Sun Country Health Region at \$2.00 or the Wawota Memorial Health Center at \$2.50, but billed the DPEBB the maximum fee set out in the Proprietary Agreement in effect during the time frame of the contracts contrary to clause 7.2 of the Proprietary Agreement.

The decision and order state that although poorly trained, "The onus was on Mr. Karbhari as a professional to exercise due diligence. He needed to make sufficient inquiries in order to know and understand the rules for himself. However, as the facts presented demonstrate, he did not do so." The decision and order further state, "...Mr. Karbhari's signature was on the agreement with the Sun Country Regional Health Authority. Authorized by Balfour Drugs Ltd., he accepted responsibility for the contractual obligations in his role as pharmacy manager. Given this position, it was incumbent upon him to undertake correct billing practices."

The decision and order also contain a statement for all pharmacists to consider: "...the members of the College must be reminded of their professional responsibilities in the context of the Drug Plan and agreements made with entities such as the health authority. The public must also be confident that the College takes such matters seriously."

The Order of the Discipline Committee included:

- That Mr. Karbhari be reprimanded;
- That Mr. Karbhari pay a fine of \$2,000.00;
- That Mr. Karbhari pay the costs of the hearing in the amount of \$3,000.00;
- All fines and costs are to be paid before July 31, 2018, or Mr. Karbhari's licence to practise pharmacy will be suspended until such time as the fines and costs are paid in full.

Amendments to *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act*

The following amendments were made to *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act* on the dates and chapters as indicated.

2016: Chapter 28

Bylaws

Clause 14(1)(f.1) is amended by striking out "Representative Board of Saskatchewan Pharmacists" and substituting "Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Inc."

In text

(f.1) respecting the making of grants, contributions or other payments to the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Inc. or a similar organization for any purpose that is consistent with the objectives of the college including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the operation, funding or administration of a program to provide compensation to pharmacies or pharmacists for professional services provided by pharmacists that are not compensated pursuant to *The Prescription Drugs Act*;

Authorized practices

Clause 23(4)(b) is amended by striking out "Narcotic Control Act (Canada)" and substituting "Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada)".

In text

(b) a person who is authorized pursuant to the *Food and Drugs Act (Canada)* or the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada)* to sell drugs to a pharmacist or practitioner;

Criminal conviction

Clause 37(a) is amended by striking out "Narcotic Control Act (Canada)" and substituting "Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada)".

In text

(a) the member or proprietor has been convicted of an indictable offence pursuant to the *Criminal Code*, the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada)* or the *Food and Drugs Act (Canada)*;

2017: Chapter P-30.3

Interpretation

2(x)(ii) "The Regional Health Services Act" is changed to "The Provincial Health Authority Act".

In text

(ii) a regional health authority or an affiliate, as defined in *The Provincial Health Authority Act*;



From the Desk of the Dean

Dr. Kishor Wasan

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition: Proud of Our Tradition and Home of Research and Practice Innovation

For the latest news from the College, visit our website: pharmacy-nutrition.usask.ca

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition has been a busy place this fall, and you can feel the energy in the air. I'm proud of all the exceptional people you'll read about below. Here are some of the most remarkable moments from the last few months:

Alumni Hall of Fame

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition is pleased to announce six inductees into the new Alumni Hall of Fame for 2018. This new initiative recognizes alumni who have made significant and sustained contributions to their profession. Each year a new group of inductees will be selected to be recognized for their achievements.



Congratulations to the following inductees to the Alumni Hall of Fame who will be formally recognized at the college's awards ceremony in March 2019:

- Dr. Jim Blackburn (BSP 1960)
- Patricia Chuey, MSc., RD, FDC (BScNutr 1989, MSc 1994)
- Dr. Dennis Gorecki (BSP 1969, PhD 1973)
- Dr. Lynn Kirkpatrick (BSP 1978, PhD 1981)
- Darcy Stann (BSP 1978)
- William (Bill) Wilson, B.S.P., FCSHP (BSP 1969)

[Read more.](#)

New Scholarships

The college is pleased to announce the new Dr. Alfred Remillard Scholarship in Pharmacy Mental Health. The award will recognize academic excellence and research potential of a student in third or fourth year of the pharmacy program in the area of mental health. [Read more.](#)



The Marguerite Eleanor Read & Charles Henry Kouri Memorial Award will provide financial assistance to students pursuing a pharmacy degree who have demonstrated financial need. [Read more.](#)

More News

Thank you to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario **Elizabeth Dowdeswell (BScHEc 1966)** for taking the time to meeting with the dean while visiting the university in September.



Dr. Holly Mansell was featured by the university's research office for her work to develop educational tools to help kidney transplant patients follow post-surgery medication regimens. [Read more.](#)

Congratulations to **Dr. David Blackburn** for the extension of his Research Chair in Patient Adherence to April 2020.

Congratulations to **Dr. Larry Lynd (BSP 1986)** who was named a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. [Read more.](#)

With the academic year in full swing, I encourage everyone to reconnect with the college through our website, social media, or dropping by for a visit. More exciting things are coming throughout the year, and we'll be extending personal invitations for you to join us.

Kish Wasan, R.Ph, Ph.D, FAAPS, FCSPS, FCAHS
Professor and Dean

Upcoming Continuing Education

Program	Pharmacists/Pharmacy Technicians	Provider	Date	For more information:
Methadone for Pain	Pharmacists and other health care professions	CPDPP	November 6, 2018	Register Brochure
CAPhO Conference "Personal Medicine"	Pharmacists	Canadian Association of Pharmacy in Oncology	April 25-28, 2019 Halifax	Website
Smoking Cessation Pharmacist Self-Care Prescribing	Pharmacist	CPDPP	December 5, 2018	Website
COMPASS Quality Improvement Coordinator training	Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians	CPDPP	Online	Website
Medication Safety Considerations for Compliance Packaging	Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians	ISMP e-learning	Online	Brochure
New Minor Ailments Training Courses	Pharmacists	CPDPP	Various	Website
Immunization and Injection Training Parts 1 & 2	Pharmacists	CPDPP	Online	Website
Privacy Officer Certification/Recertification	Pharmacists	CPDPP	Online	Website

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) Examination Dates

Pharmacist Schedule of Exams

For the most up-to-date exam schedules, please visit the PEBC website at www.pebc.ca.

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Fall Pharmacist Qualifying Examination	MCQ: November 10 to 15, 2018	Registration Closed
	OSCE: November 10, 2018	
Winter Pharmacist Evaluating Examination	January 8 & 9, 2019	Registration Closed
Spring Pharmacist Qualifying Examination	MCQ: May 21 to 25, 2019	February 22, 2019
	OSCE: May 26, 2019	
Summer Pharmacist Evaluating Examination	June 26, 2019	March 15, 2019

Pharmacy Technician Schedule of Exams

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Winter Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination	MCQ: April 7, 2019	December 7, 2018
	OSPE: April 6, 2019	

* Applications must be **received** by the PEBC office no later than the application deadline date.

Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's Influenza Immunization Guideline

This year, for the first time ever, the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency (SCA) will not be providing flu shots to cancer patients due to the increased accessibility within the province.

This means that health professionals outside of the cancer agency need to evaluate these patients to determine the appropriateness and timing of the influenza vaccine as it relates to their oncology medications and when the last administration occurred. SCPP strongly recommends that patients be properly screened to ensure this population of patients are immunized safely and according to the recommended guidelines published by the SCA.

The Saskatchewan Cancer Agency strongly recommends that cancer patients receive a flu shot, by either making an appointment with their family physician or visiting a pharmacy in their area.

SCA Influenza Immunization Guideline

[Click this link](#) to review SCA's influenza immunization guideline provided as a resource/guide specific to SCA's patient population. It does not take the place of any diagnostic, treatment plan or recommendations from a patient's oncologist.

Flu Clinics and Pharmacies

Posters will be posted in the clinics promoting flu shots for SCA patients and their caregivers. Patients and the caregivers are also being given a handout by SCA reception staff to the following websites:

- www.4flu.ca provides the location of flu clinics throughout the province
- www.skpharmacists.ca/patients/flu-shots The Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan website provides a list of all the pharmacies that are providing the flu shots.

A [searchable list of pharmacies](#) providing flu vaccinations is also available on the SCPP website.

DPEBB Influenza Immunization Program Update

The official starting date of the Ministry of Health's Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) 2018-2019 Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program is October 22, 2018 and ends on March 31, 2019.

To ensure pharmacy professionals have the needed information, the DPEBB published an update to the Influenza Immunization Program on October 9, 2018. The update describes billing and answers frequently asked questions. To read, click [here](#).



Methadone for Pain

Presenter:

Dr. Carmen Johnson is the Medical Director of Palliative Services, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. She also provides addiction services to the Regina Youth Detox facility and occasional ER locum services in Eastern Montana and Northeastern Minnesota.

Upon completion of this course, participants will learn about:

- ⦿ Brief history of opioids
- ⦿ Characteristics of methadone
- ⦿ Methadone pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- ⦿ Use of methadone
 - Dependence
 - Analgesia
- ⦿ Management vomited, missed doses
- ⦿ Indications to switch to methadone
- ⦿ Patient selection for methadone
- ⦿ Methadone prescriber categories
- ⦿ How to apply for a methadone exemption
- ⦿ Prescribing for stable dose methadone patients in hospital
- ⦿ Cost comparison

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
University of Saskatchewan
www.usask.ca/cpdpp
cpdpp@usask.ca



**Tuesday
November 6, 2018**

**U OF S NURSING
REGINA CAMPUS**
4400 - 4TH AVENUE
(CORNER OF 4TH AVE &
LEWVAN DR)

6:30 pm Registration

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Fee: **\$35 + GST**

Register before
November 4, 2018

LIVE-STREAM and
RECORDED Version
options available

**REGISTRATION IS
NOW OPEN**

[HTTPS://CCDECONFERENCE.USASK.CA
/INDEX.ASPX?CID=400](https://ccdeconference.usask.ca/index.aspx?CID=400)

Responsibility of a Pharmacy Manager during Permit Renewal

A proprietary pharmacy permit is issued to the proprietor in the name of the pharmacy manager. Therefore, it is the pharmacy manager who is responsible for upholding and meeting all requirements of the legislation.

This includes ensuring all permit requirements are received in the College office PRIOR to the desired effective date of the new or amended permit.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- provision of application forms, fees, and documentation within the required timelines
- notification to the College PRIOR to the desired effective date of:
 - proposed amendments to the proprietary pharmacy permit prior to the effective date of the amendment and according to the specific guidelines relating to the amendment, including re-location (change of location); pharmacy manager change; proprietor name change; share purchase; director changes; and lock and leave permit amendments
 - changes that occur in the pharmacy: renovations; relocation within the premise; pharmacy hours changes; employee updates; lock and leave installations; privacy officer change; and COMPASS Quality Improvement Coordinator change
 - new pharmacy establishment
- those responsibilities concurrent with being a director of the proprietary operating corporation, which include, but are not limited to:
 - ensuring the manager is a director of the proprietary operating corporation during the valid dates of the proprietary pharmacy permit
 - ensuring the pool of directors of the proprietary operating corporation consists of a majority number of SCPP members versus non-members
 - submitting required ISC Corporate Registry documentation, *Notice of Change of Directors/Officers*
 - notifying SCPP of amendments to directors (ceased or added as directors of the corporation) PRIOR to the effective date of a permit
 - designating an appropriately trained privacy officer who meets the bylaw requirements

COMPASS

The pharmacy manager is also responsible for:

- meeting the requirements of the COMPASS Quality Improvement program
- delegating a COMPASS Quality Improvement (QI) Coordinator who meets the legislated requirements
- enrolling with ISMP, in the case of a new pharmacy, for the CPhIR program by submitting a Data Sharing Agreement form
- submitting an amended Data Sharing Agreement form to ISMP when a permit amendment occurs

Resources

- [The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act](#)
- [SCPP Regulatory Bylaws](#)
- [Pharmacy Manager Responsibilities](#)
- [Directors' Duties and Responsibilities](#)
- [Pharmacy Privacy Officer Bylaw and Interpretive Guidelines](#)
- [Trade Name Change](#)

Pharmacy Permit Renewal 2018-2019 Reminder

November 1, 2018 is the **deadline** for receipt of the pharmacy permit application form, fees and current/up-to-date training for privacy officers and COMPASS QI Coordinators. Current pharmacy permits expire on November 30, 2018. A late penalty fee of \$255 + GST will be applied on any applications, fees or other required documentation received in the College office after November 1, 2018.

If you have a manager name change, proprietor name change, ownership change or any other permit amendment, please contact Pat from the College **before renewing** at 306-584-4321 or at Pat.Guillemain@saskpharm.ca.

For more information, please review the document [Propriety Pharmacy Permit Renewal 2018-19](#).

Cannabis Act: Cannabis for Medical and Non-Medical Purposes Information and Updates

The [Cannabis Act](#) came into force on **October 17, 2018**, legalizing the possession and sale of cannabis for recreational use. The [Cannabis Regulations](#) preserves access to cannabis for medical purposes, which is similar to and replaces the Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulations (ACMPR). Under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA), **cannabis is no longer a controlled substance** and the Narcotic Control Regulations (NCR) no longer applies to cannabis except when in a Health Canada approved pharmaceutical product (i.e. Nabilone).

Council passed a motion on September 21, 2017, to adopt in principal the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities' (NAPRA's) Cannabis for Medical and Non-Medical Purposes: NAPRA Position Statement on the Role of Pharmacy Practitioners. The position statement can be found [here](#). In addition to the NAPRA statement, Council also concluded that both the pharmacist and pharmacy technician have clinical and distributive roles with respect to medical cannabis subject to the federal legislation of the *Cannabis Act* and Regulations.

1. Cannabis for recreational purposes:

In their professional practice, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians have no role in the sale or promotion of cannabis for recreational purposes. Cannabis for recreational purposes must not be sold in or from a pharmacy.

The Government of Saskatchewan has provided a [Cannabis Resources for Health Care Providers](#) website that provides information and external resources related to health care professionals.

Furthermore, if pharmacists or patients wish to obtain more information about how the Government of Saskatchewan has regulated recreational cannabis, they can visit the following web page: [Cannabis use in Saskatchewan](#).

2. Cannabis for medical purposes:

Cannabis for medical purposes is regulated very differently than prescription drugs. The role of the pharmacist and pharmacy technician in cannabis for medical purposes will depend on whether or not they or the pharmacy within which they practice holds a license from the federal government for the sale of cannabis for medical purposes.

SCPP wishes to inform members of the following fundamental principles:

- 1) A pharmacy permit issued by SCPP under the *Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act* does not authorize the sale, possession, or distribution of cannabis for medical purposes. The licenses required to sell, possess, or distribute cannabis for medical purposes must be obtained from the federal government under the *Cannabis Act* if a pharmacist or pharmacy wishes to engage in those activities.
- 2) The authority to sell or dispense drugs under the *Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act* or the SCPP Regulatory Bylaws does not include the sale or dispensing of cannabis for medical purposes. The sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be specially authorized through a license to sell cannabis for medical purposes issued under the *Cannabis Act* and Cannabis Regulations (Cannabis Regulations, Part 14). If a pharmacy does not have such a license, a pharmacy must not engage in the promotion or sale of cannabis for medical purposes.
- 3) Unless a pharmacy holds a federal license to sell cannabis for medical purposes, a pharmacist or pharmacy technician:
 - a) **Must not** sell or offer to sell cannabis for medical purposes (*Cannabis Act*, ss 2(1), 10), and
 - b) **Must not** promote cannabis for medical purposes and must not promote a cannabis accessory or any service related to cannabis (*Cannabis Act*, ss 17(1)).

Note: "Promote" is broadly defined as "in respect of a thing or service, means to make, for the purpose of selling the thing or service a representation – other than a representation on a package of label – about the thing or service by any means, whether directly or indirectly, that is likely to influence and shape attitudes, beliefs and behaviors about the thing or service" (*Cannabis Act*, s. 2(1)).
- 4) Cannabis for medical purposes **must** be authorized by a physician or nurse practitioner in a medical document, which is distinct from a prescription (*Cannabis*

Regulations, ss. 264(1), 271 and 272). A pharmacist's authority under our legislation does not include authorizing or adapting a medical document for cannabis nor does it permit compounding with cannabis (Cannabis Regulations, ss. 264(1), 271 and 272).

- 5) If a pharmacy holds a federal license to sell cannabis for medical purposes, a pharmacist or pharmacy technician may, subject to the terms of the *Cannabis Act* and Regulations and any conditions on the license:
 - a) Engage in the sale of or offering to sell cannabis for medical purposes, and
 - b) Engage in the limited informational promotion that is authorized under the *Cannabis Act* (*Cannabis Act*, s. 17(2)).
- 6) The expectation and standards for distribution would include but not be limited to ensuring relationships with credible suppliers of products of acceptable quality and participating in research and monitoring into the effectiveness or clinical appropriateness of such products. Credible suppliers include those who are licensed by Health Canada under the *Cannabis Act* and participating in research and monitoring means that, at a minimum, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians contribute sales and information to patient specific administrative databases that can be used to correlate use with conditions and optimal therapeutic outcomes.

3. Developing competence:

Pharmacists have an obligation to ensure they have the necessary knowledge, skills, and competencies to assess an individual and provide appropriate care, regardless of the medication or condition they are treating. In this regard, cannabis for medical purposes should be treated no differently from other medications, treatments, or therapies. However, cannabis may differ because research supporting the efficacy of cannabis for medical purposes is limited and continues to grow. Pharmacists need to be aware of this limitation when critically evaluating sources of information and knowledge and when building their competence. Pharmacists must ensure they have the knowledge and skills about cannabis, its use, potential benefits and risks, to provide care to individuals. Resources reviewed should be objective and evidenced-based.

medSask and CPDPP are working on education modules this fall to support pharmacists and

pharmacy technicians with respect to cannabis education.

4. Risks to consider but not limited to:

- use by individuals younger than 25 years of age can impact brain development and lead to long-term health and social problems;
- the potential for impairment when driving or operating machinery, particularly when used in conjunction with other drugs and substances that affect the central nervous system;
- smoking cannabis has a respiratory risk profile similar to smoking tobacco;
- use of cannabis should be avoided in individuals with, or at risk of, mental health issues such as psychosis or substance-use disorder;
- the risks of using cannabis during pregnancy or while breastfeeding; and
- pharmacists should not recommend or promote the use of smokable or inhaled cannabis for any purpose.

5. Pharmacists may only possess cannabis for medical purposes if:

- 1) They hold a federal license under the Cannabis Regulations;
- 2) They work in a hospital; or,
- 3) If they are named as an individual responsible under section 266(1)(d), (e) of the Cannabis Regulations and have met all of the applicable requirements for that person. This would allow the pharmacist to possess the cannabis to re-package and distribute it back to the patient (i.e. compliance packaging).

Section 266(1)(d): an adult who is named in a registration document or a registration certificate as being responsible for an individual referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) or 267(1)(a) or (b) and who possess the cannabis for the medical purposes of that individual;

Section 266(1)(e): an adult who is responsible for an individual referred to in paragraph (c) or 267(1)(c) and who possess the cannabis for the medical purposes of that individual.

6. Destruction of Unserviceable Stock and Post-Consumer Returns of Cannabis (recreational, medicinal and drugs containing cannabis):

Can a pharmacist accept cannabis (medical, recreational or drug containing cannabis) returns for the purposes of destruction?

Yes - A section 56(1) exemption for pharmacists (will be transitioned to a

class exemption under section 140 of the *Cannabis Act*) **allows for the destruction of unserviceable stock and post-consumer returns of cannabis. The destruction of cannabis is subject to the terms and conditions of that class. Therefore, for the purposes of destruction only a pharmacist can be in possession of the above-mentioned forms of cannabis.**

If a patient returns a cannabis product (medical, recreational or drug containing cannabis) to the pharmacy for destruction the pharmacist has two options:

- 1) Accept the cannabis product and refer to the [Destruction of Narcotics, Controlled Drugs and other Targeted Substances](#) guideline provided by SCPP in the reference manual for proper disposal. ****Note SCPP is in the process of updating this document due to changes coming in the new year from Health Canada****

- a. Destroy the product locally;
- b. Sell or distribute to a cannabis licensed dealer or licensed dealer under the NCR for the purpose of its destruction, if the drug is in a container that prevents its removal and is marked in a manner that is sufficient to identify the container.

- 2) Recommend that the patient return the cannabis product to the retail location that they purchased the product from or to a cannabis licensed dealer.

7. Can a hospital pharmacist accept returns of cannabis?

Yes - [Section 350 of the Cannabis Regulations](#) allows for a responsible adult to return cannabis for **medical (only) purposes** to a hospital employee (i.e. hospital pharmacist).

8. Hospital Pharmacists – Distributing Cannabis for Research Purposes:

[Hospital pharmacists](#) can sell or distribute medical cannabis products (other than plants or seeds) received from a federal licence holder to other hospital employees (i.e. healthcare practitioner that practices in the hospital or hospital researchers with a federal research license) if authorized by the individual in charge of the hospital. **Pharmacists can not distribute cannabis products to patients directly.**

SCPP is working on a guidance document for the reference manual and will provide further communication to members when it is posted.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns about the *Cannabis Act* or Regulations please direct your questions to

info@saskpharm.ca. SCPP wishes to thank the Alberta College of Pharmacy for allowing us to adapt sections of their Cannabis documents.

Resources:

- 1) Alberta College of Pharmacy. Last accessed October 19, 2018. <https://abpharmacy.ca/articles/cannabis-medical-purposes>
- 2) The *Cannabis Act*. Last accessed October 19, 2018. <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-24.5/>
- 3) The Cannabis Regulations. Last accessed October 19, 2018. <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2018-144/>

SCPP Members Facebook Group

When there is something the College would like to get out quickly, including drug recalls, drug schedule changes, training, events, important notices, etc.



the SCPP Members Facebook group is a quick avenue to keep members in the loop. Where it is appropriate, this information will also be posted on the website.

Because the Facebook Group has been set up as a “secret” group, it is not viewable by non-members or even findable. This makes it a more secure platform to convey information and for members to ask questions. Members are invited to post items and questions they think will benefit the community.

How to Join

The group is available any SCPP member who has an active member number and is a Facebook user.

To join, email info@saskpharm.ca with “Join SCPP Members Group” in the subject line. Please include a first and last name, licence number and the *email address associated with your Facebook account* in the body of the email. An invitation to join the group will be sent via Facebook. Participants are free to leave the group at any time.