Implementation Update and Orientation to the New Practice Framework

The Manitoba government has proclaimed the new Pharmaceutical Act. Please see the Manitoba government news release, New Pharmaceutical Act to Give Pharmacists Greater Authority. This is the last step before implementation on January 1, 2014.

The MPhA has developed an Orientation to the New Practice Framework to help answer questions around the new Act, July 2013 Regulations and Practice Directions. Please be sure to review and understand this orientation manual in addition to the July 2013 Regulations, Act and Practice Directions. It is the pharmacist’s responsibility to read and understand these resources before January 1, 2014 implementation. All documents can be found on the Pharmaceutical Act December 2006 (Bill 41) webpage of www.cphm.ca.

Please remember feedback is welcome and updates will be added. Updates will be announced in the Friday Five and Newsletter. The Orientation to the New Practice Framework is available for the public, pharmacy assistants, pharmacy technicians and members on www.cphm.ca.

www.mpha.ca
Holiday Office Hours:

December 23
OPEN 8:30 - 4:30

December 24
OPEN 8:30 - NOON

December 25 & 26
CLOSED

December 27
OPEN 8:30 - 4:30

December 30
OPEN 8:30 - 4:30

December 31
OPEN 8:30 - 4:30

January 1
CLOSED

VISION
Creating the framework for excellence in Pharmacy Practice

MISSION
To protect the health and well being of the public by ensuring and promoting safe, patient-centred and progressive pharmacy practice.

VALUES
The MPPhA activities are based on the following values and are the foundation of what we do:
- Integrity
- Respect
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Collaboration
- Life Long Learning
Dear MPhA Members,

The MPhA is pleased to announce that the Manitoba government has proclaimed the new Pharmaceutical Act and provided the MPhA with the final ministerial regulations, which cover the definitions of practitioners and drugs.

The MPhA has been working with the Manitoba government over the past few weeks to get the Act and its Regulations (which were approved by the members in July) proclaimed by government in time for implementation, January 1, 2014. In the new year the MPhA name will change to the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba, with a new website domain, www.cphm.ca. Also in 2014, the Standards of Practice Committee will continue work on drafting the remainder of the Practice Directions. Please be sure to visit Pharmaceutical Act December 2006 (Bill 41) webpage often for new practice directions approved by Council and open for member consultation.

The MPhA has developed an Orientation to the New Practice Framework to help answer questions around the new Act, regulations and practice directions. Please be sure to review and understand this Orientation Manual in addition to the July 2013 Regulations, Act and Practice Directions. It is the pharmacist’s responsibility to read and understand these resources before January 1, 2014 implementation. All documents can be found on www.cphm.ca, under Pharmaceutical Act December 2006 (Bill 41).

It is important to remember that this new Act does not only affect pharmacists work environment, it also has an important impact on patients. Members are encouraged to speak with their patients to ensure that they understand the new services that you can provide. Even if those services aren’t available right away, it is important to speak to patients now so that they are aware of the changes coming. You are the primary connection with the public and it is up to you to start talking to your patients about this change in their healthcare system. In the new year, the MPhA is creating a brochure for distribution to the public/patients and to help pharmacists describe what the new Act means for their patients. The Orientation to the New Practice Framework Manual is on www.cphm.ca and is available to the public.

If you have questions regarding the new legislation and how it will change you pharmacy practice in Manitoba, please contact the MPhA office at info@cphm.mb.ca or 204.233.1411.

And with that, I sign off as the last president of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association, a name synonymous with the practice of pharmacy and protection of the public since 1878. I look forward to joining you next year as the President of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba.

Season’s Greetings!

Kyle MacNair, Bsc.Pharm, ACPR
President, Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association
Learn to be Safe
Medication Safety: A Guide for Pharmacists

An innovative virtual resource guide to promote medication safety with patients and their families is now available!

Learn to be Safe - Medication Safety: A Guide for Pharmacists is an online guide made available for pharmacists and other healthcare providers to plan, create and deliver effective, customizable presentations, discussion groups or workshops aimed at talking with patients and their families on ways to improve medication safety.

Medication incidents remain a leading cause of patient harm, disability and death.

This guide can help users:

- deliver key medication safety messages to the public
- promote patient and family engagement
- promote community connections with healthcare providers
- raise awareness of everyone’s role in improving patient safety

Everyone wins when patients, families and healthcare providers work in partnership to improve medication safety!

The guide includes supplemental content to deliver more focused discussions on medication safety:

- for children and teens
- when travelling
- when using high alert medications
- for seniors
- when using cancer medications in the home

The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association, the Canadian Patient Safety Institute, and the Institute for Safe Medication Practices, partnered with the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety on the production of this resource. CancerCare Manitoba contributed content and tools to help patients and families living with cancer use cancer medications safely at home.

To view a MPHA PD Program on how to use the guide, visit the sbrc.tv website, go to Published Events for MPHA (enter case sensitive password “MPHA”) and click on the October 29, 2013 program, A Primer on Oral Anti-Cancer Therapy & Learn to be Safe - Medication Safety: A Guide for Pharmacists.

For further information, contact the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety at 204-927-6477 or 1-866-927-6477 or access the guide online at www.mips.ca
Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System (CMIRPS)

CMIRPS is a national voluntary medication incident and ‘near miss’ reporting program founded for the purpose of sharing the learning experiences from medication errors. Implementation of preventative strategies and system safeguards to decrease the risk for error-induced injury and thereby promote medication safety in healthcare is our collaborative goal.

Medication incidents (including near misses) can be reported to ISMP Canada:

(i) through the website: http://www.ismp-canada.org/err_report.htm or
(ii) by phone: 416-733-3131 or toll free: 1-866-544-7672.

ISMP Canada guarantees confidentiality and security of information received, and respects the wishes of the reporter as to the level of detail to be included in publications.

Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada)
416-733-3131 or 1-866-544-7672 (1-866-54-ISMPC)
Email: info@ismp-canada.org
Website: www.ismp-canada.org

ISMP Newsletter Subscriptions

ISMP Canada Safety Bulletins are designed to disseminate timely, targeted information to reduce the risk of medication incidents. The purpose of the bulletins is to confidentially share the information received about medication incidents which have occurred and to suggest medication system improvement strategies for enhancing patient safety. The bulletins will also share alerts and warnings specific to the Canadian market place.

The following ISMP Canada Safety Bulletins have been issued since the last issue of the MPhA Newsletter.

2013 - ISMP Canada Safety Bulletins:

- Vol. 13 Issue 12 - ALERT: Look-Alike Labelling and Packaging for Diphenhydramine and Phenylephrine
- Vol. 13 Issue 11 - Aggregate Analysis of Oxytocin Incidents
- Vol. 13 Issue 10 - Safeguards for HYDROmorphine—Results of a Targeted Demonstration Project
- Vol. 13 Issue 9 - Labelling and Packaging: An Aggregate Analysis of Medication Incident Reports

2013 - SafeMedicationUse.ca Safety Newsletters and Alerts for Consumers

- Get Your Flu Shot - and Keep a Record!
- An Important Question - Does this new medicine replace one of my current medicines?
- Good Communication Can Help Prevent Harmful Mistakes with Medicines!

All issues of the ISMP Canada Safety Bulletins, including those issued in previous years, are freely downloadable from the ISMP Canada website www.ismp-canada.org.

ISMP Canada is pleased to distribute The Medication Safety Alert! (US) newsletters along with ISMP Canada Safety Bulletins to Canadian practitioners and corporations.

To subscribe and for more information on all ISMP Canada’s publications, events and services visit the ISMP Canada website at www.ismp-canada.org.

If you have made changes in your pharmacy, which focus on patient safety and that you would like to share with your colleagues, please contact Susan Lessard-Friesen at 204-233-1411.
Diagnostic Procedures in Pharmacies

Manitoba Health has asked that the MPhA advise members of their concerns with respect to the performance of diagnostic procedures by pharmacists at local pharmacies, including Hemoglobin A1c and Hemocode blood tests. In short, pharmacies cannot perform diagnostic procedures. The legislative requirements that apply in provision of diagnostic testing are outlined below.

It is Manitoba Health’s role to ensure that the provision of diagnostic services is in compliance with the standards set out in The Health Services Insurance Act (HSIA), and consistent with guidelines established by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba. Pursuant to the HSIA, a “laboratory” is defined as follows:

119 “laboratory” means a place where

The diagnostic examination or treatment of patients is performed by means of radiation emitting or non-radiation emitting medical imaging devices, or operations and procedures, including the collection of specimens from the human body, are performed for the purpose of obtaining information for diagnosis, prophylaxis or treatment.

The HSIA additionally provides, in section 121(1), that the approval of Manitoba Health is required to establish, operate or maintain a laboratory, subject to a fine of $5,000 per day for non-compliance.

In the view of Manitoba Health, the provision of a diagnostic service by a pharmacist meets the definition of a laboratory as set out in the HSIA, and accordingly requires approval by Manitoba Health. Without the approval of Manitoba Health, performance of diagnostic services by a pharmacist would be a violation of section 121(1). Additionally, there are concerns with respect to a number of potential health risks that may be associated with performance of clinical diagnostic tests in a retail setting, which would likely dictate against approval of such testing, even if an application for approval was submitted to Manitoba Health.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Patricia Caetano, A/Executive Director, Provincial Drug Programs, at 204-786-7333 or call the MPhA at 204-233-1411.

Federal government introduces new law to protect patients: Protecting Canadians from Unsafe Drugs Act

The federal Minister of Health, recently unveiled new legislation entitled Protecting Canadians from Unsafe Drugs Act. The proposed legislation will not apply to natural health products, which will continue to be regulated under the existing Natural Health Product Regulations (NHPR) of the Food and Drugs Act.

The legislation will provide the federal government with recall powers, require reporting of serious adverse drug reactions, impose new penalties for unsafe products, and compel drug companies to revised labels to reflect health risk information and to do further testing of products.

This Act will apply to prescription and over-the-counter drugs, vaccines, gene therapies, cells, tissues and organs, and medical devices. A copy of the press release and backgrounder on the new legislation can be found here: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-as/ma/rd-mm/dpdp-rpdf/2013/2013-174-eng.php
Discipline Decision

Raymond Gasmen

Pursuant to the Notice of Hearing dated the 11th day of April, 2011, it was alleged that Raymond Gasmen, being a pharmacist under the provisions of the Act, and a registrant of the Association, was guilty of unskilled practice and professional misconduct, as described in Section 35 of the Act.

Mr. Gasmen entered a plea of guilty to the following, in that in or about August 2006, he:

“receive[d] a prescription refill order for Plavix from patient “SC” located in the United States and, in response to that order, sold to or facilitated a sale of a form of Plavix to patient “SC”, which drug was dispensed by a pharmacy in the United Kingdom, and for which a notice of compliance had not been issued by Health Canada and was therefore a drug which was not approved for sale in Canada within the meaning of section C.08.002 of the Food and Drug Regulations.”.

At the meeting convening September 25, 2013, the Committee agreed that the sanctions contained in the joint recommended disposition should serve to satisfy that the public’s interest is protected and the public’s confidence is retained. Therefore the Committee finds, pursuant to section 36(2) of the Act, that Mr. Gasmen is guilty of unskilled practice and professional misconduct, and pursuant to section 37(1)(a) and section 38(1)(a), orders that:

a) Mr. Gasmen be reprimanded; and

b) Mr. Gasmen pay a contribution towards the costs of MPhA of the investigation and hearing in the amount of $20,000.00 within 30 days of the date of hearing.

Mr. Gasmen has complied with the orders stated.
Medication Incident and Discrepancy Reporting

What are the suggested steps?

When a pharmacist becomes aware of a medication incident, it is important to keep in mind that the manner in which the pharmacist responds to the incident can make the biggest difference in both the outcome for the patient and pharmacist involved.

As a review, a medication incident is a drug error whereby the medication has been released to the patient and the patient’s health potentially could be compromised. Even if the patient has not ingested the medication, the medication error is still considered a medication incident as it has been released from the pharmacy to the patient. If an error has been made and corrected before the patient receives the drug, then it is considered a medication discrepancy.

It is important for pharmacists to remember that the pharmacist who discovers the error is responsible for initiating the medication incident reporting, resolution and documentation processes.


Steps to take to improve your response to a medication incident include:

1. When a patient presents a possible medication incident to the pharmacy, the pharmacist must give the patient their immediate attention. The safety of the patient is the pharmacist’s primary concern.

2. It is important to listen intently to the patient as they describe the situation and not interrupt even if you can immediately identify the reason for the concern. To ensure understanding, repeat or paraphrase what you have been told.

3. Acknowledge the distress and risk that the incident has caused the patient and express empathy and concern for the patient.

4. Determine if the patient is at possible risk of harm. Notify the prescriber of the medication incident and any other emergency personnel deemed necessary.

5. Apologize to the patient even if you are still unsure about the circumstances of how the medication incident occurred. Under the Apology Act in Manitoba, a healthcare worker can make an apology without it constituting admission of legal liability.

6. Determine the cause of the medication incident in a transparent and timely manner ensuring that changes are made in processes and systems that may have led to the medication incident.

7. Communicate this information to the patient so that they understand that steps have been taken to fully address the medication incident to prevent a reoccurrence.

8. Document and report the medication incident in accordance with the standards (see Medication Incidents and Discrepancies in MPPhA Community Standards of Practice at www.mpha.ca).

9. Ensure information about the medication incident is communicated to all dispensary staff.


Remember, everyone can learn from medication incidents when they are reported.
Pharmacy Practice Management Systems (PPMS)

The information management systems used by pharmacy professionals, pharmacy practice management systems (PPMS) must support the delivery of patient care including the dispensing of drugs in accordance with Canadian regulations and standards. The National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authority (NAPRA) recently released a Pharmacy Practice Management Systems (PPMS): Requirements to Support NAPRA’s “Model Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists document that provides information to Canadian pharmacists in the form of requirements of pharmacy software programs to meet the national standards of practice.

Historically, PPMS have been focused on the dispensing and billing processes. The systems must do much more to support the practice of pharmacy today, needing to be able to record, display, store, and exchange patient specific information in a manner that optimizes workflow within pharmacy. PPMS must also facilitate information exchange with external systems, such as electronic health record systems, and also processes electronic prescriptions in a manner that preserve the confidentiality and security of all personal health information stored, processed and/or transmitted.

Pharmacy regulatory authorities have developed minimum requirements of systems used by pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in their delivery of quality care and services. The Council of Pharmacy Registrars of Canada (CPRC), an advisory committee of the NAPRA, established a working group for this purpose that based development on the NAPRA “Model Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists” and the Pan-Canadian Drug Messaging Standard (developed by Canada Health Infoway). The PPMS requirements within Pharmacy Practice Management Systems (PPMS): Requirements to Support NAPRA’s “Model Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists document will be instructive to pharmacists, pharmacy managers, pharmacy owners, vendors, and the developers of federal/provincial/territorial electronic health record infrastructures to develop and implement systems for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to comply with their respective standards of practice.

PPMS requirements will include public safety features for electronic prescriptions (e-prescriptions) and additional measures to prevent prescription fraud. Electronic prescribing (e-prescribing) allows prescribers to send prescriptions electronically so that a patient’s pharmacist of choice can immediately access them. Some of the benefits attributed to e-prescribing depend critically upon ensuring the authenticity of e-prescriptions and securing their transmission from prescriber to dispenser.

The 35 PPMS requirements addressing technical, functional and administrative requirements are listed in Section 3 of the document. The requirements should be considered minimum requirements. Vendor software (alone or in combination with other software, systems, and services) must meet all the requirements and perform all the mandatory functions described in this document before such software can be considered compliant with, and supportive of, NAPRA standards of professional practice and hence suitable for deployment.

The status of these requirements in Manitoba has not, as yet, been determined. It is important that pharmacists and pharmacy managers bring this document to the attention of the pharmacy owner, I/T department or support person and/or software vendor. Please watch for further updates on this important issue.
Pharmacy Technician / Assistant Survey Results

Two months ago the MPhA distributed a short pharmacy technician/assistant survey to evaluate the interest in completing the National Pharmacy Technician Bridging Education Program in Manitoba. The results of this survey could impact the availability of an ‘in-class’ offering of the national bridging program in the future.

Some of the highlights of the survey include that 57 percent of pharmacy technicians/assistants surveyed are interested in completing a qualified/regulated pharmacy technician process in Manitoba. The information collected will be shared with those organizations interested in hosting an ‘in-class’ offering of the national bridging program in the future.

As more information becomes available on the offering of a National Pharmacy Technician Bridging Education Program in Manitoba, the MPhA will let members know through the Friday Five and Newsletter. Thank you to those who participated in the survey.

2014 Licence Renewal and Update

The MPhA would like to clarify that the regulations to the new Pharmaceutical Act specify that members must have professional liability insurance that provides a minimum of $2,000,000 per claim or per occurrence and a minimum $4,000,000 annual aggregate. Please note that this professional liability insurance must be in place for January 1, 2014, the anticipated date that the new legislation will come into force. There is no grace period for members to have the liability insurance in place.

The first mailing of 2014 pharmacist licences was sent in the mail last Friday. The first mailing of the 2014 pharmacy licences was sent today.

A note about PD...

Members must fill in their learning activities on the online PD Log. The November 1, 2012 - October 31, 2013, PD year will remain open until early 2014. The November 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014, online PD Log is now available for members to enter learning activities.

Please remember that activities with different titles and/or different accreditation numbers must be entered into the online PD Log as separate entries.

The MPhA has always encouraged members to keep a three year past record of professional development learning activities and the necessary supportive documents. This practice is now a requirement under the July 2013 Regulations, and listed as a declaration on the licence application form, so please be sure to keep these documents starting with the past professional development year, November 1, 2012 - October 31, 2013 and going forward every year thereafter.

If you have any questions about the online PD log, please email Lita Hnatiuk, Communications and Quality Assurance Coordinator, at lhнатiuk@mpha.mb.ca.

Save the Date: CPhM Golf Tournament September 11, 2014

The Annual CPhM Golf Tournament will take place on September 11, 2014, at the Selkirk Golf & Country Club. Mark your calendars and keep on the look out for registration information in an upcoming Friday Five or Newsletter. The net proceeds raised from the event go to support the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy (CFP).
White Coat & Student Recognition Ceremony

The Faculty of Pharmacy White Coat and Student Recognition Ceremony was held September 30, 2013 at the Brodie Centre. We are pleased to announce the following awards have been presented.

The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association made Mr. William G. Eamer, a honourary member in 2008, and at the 2013 White Coat Ceremony he was recognized for his terrific contributions to the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Mr. William G. Eamer was “draped” with an Honourary White Coat by Dr. Neal Davies, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy.

2013 Award Winners

MPhA Gold Medal: Lesley Worsnop
MPhA Silver Medal: Devin Ross
MPhA Silver Medal Third Year: Heather Bourns
MPhA President’s Prize: Lesley Worsnop

William G. Eamer/MPhA Scholarship for Student Excellence in Pharmacy
- Entering - Jessica Holben
- Year 1 - Jacy Howarth
- Year 2 - Jaclyn Deonarine
- Year 3 - Jillian James

Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association Scholarship, Year 2
- Janice Neufeld

Outstanding Teacher Awards:
- Ms. Nancy Kleiman – First Year
- Dr. Lean Chee – Second Year
- Dr. Alan McIntosh – Third Year

Preceptor of the Year Awards:
- Ms. Grazia Prochazka – Hospital Preceptor of the Year
- Ryan Buffie – Community Preceptor of the Year
- Wal-Mart Unicity – Pharmacy Team of the Year
Nominations are Now Open for the 2014 Awards!

The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association is pleased to invite nominations for the upcoming 2014 Awards. Recognize a Manitoba pharmacist for their contribution to the profession by nominating them for one of the following awards:

- The Pharmacist of the Year
- Bowl of Hygeia
- Bonnie Schultz Award for Pharmacy Practice Excellence
- Honorary Life Member
- Patient Safety Award
- Honorary Life Membership
- Honorary Membership
- Centennial Award

Deadline for nominations is January 21, 2014. Who will you nominate this year? Please click to view the 2014 Awards Nominations Brochure for nomination information.

Annual General Meeting and 2014 Election of Council Members

The MPhA Annual General Meeting is scheduled on Saturday, April 26, 2014, during the Manitoba Pharmacy Conference.

The College (formerly MPhA) will be conducting an Election of Council Members to serve for a two year term, beginning immediately after the Annual General Meeting on April 26, 2014. Is there someone you would like to nominate to be a member of Council? Start thinking about your nomination now. More information on the nomination process will be released in the coming weeks.

Following the close of nominations and when an election is required, a ballot will be prepared and mailed to each member. Complete voting instructions will be provided with the ballot.

The Manitoba Pharmacy Conference is April 25, 26 and 27, 2014, at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

For additional information regarding the conference, please visit www.mbpharmacyconference.com or contact the Manitoba Society of Pharmacists at (204) 956-6680.
December 2013

Please make all necessary changes on your copies of the National Drug Schedules and applicable Federal Legislation. Updated copies of these documents are available on the NAPRA website at www.napra.ca

NAPRA National Drug Schedules Notice Board

**NDSAC Initial Recommendation on bisacodyl 5mg tablets and 10mg suppositories in all package sizes, except for package sizes of 100 or more**

December 12, 2013

A meeting of the National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC) was held on December 8, 2013 with the following Initial Recommendation made:

- Bisacodyl - when sold in concentrations of 5mg or less per oral dosage unit or 10mg or less per rectal dosage unit/suppository, in package sizes containing no more than 50mg of bisacodyl - be granted Unscheduled status (from Schedule III)
- Bisacodyl and its salts [except when sold in concentrations of 5mg or less per oral dosage unit or 10mg or less per rectal dosage unit/suppository in package sizes containing no more than 50mg of bisacodyl] - be retained in Schedule III.

Any objections to these Initial Recommendation(s) must be received by the NAPRA office by January 15, 2014. Questions or comments should be directed to the Manager, Professional and Regulatory Affairs, Sarah Marshall via e-mail at smarshall@napra.ca