



MPhA Friday Five

June 7, 2013

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Reminder that Faxed Prescriptions need a Prescriber Certification

The [Joint Statement on Facsimile Transmission of Prescriptions](#) outlines for practitioners and pharmacists the requirements for faxing prescriptions to pharmacies. MPhA has received notification from pharmacists that practitioners are omitting the required prescriber certification section. The Joint Statements states that:

(5) *The prescription must be legible and must include the following:*

(j) *Name of the pharmacy intended to receive the transmission;*

(k) *Signed certification that:*

- the prescription represents the original of the prescription drug order,*
- the addressee is the only intended recipient and there are no others, and*
- the original prescription will be invalidated, securely filed and not transmitted elsewhere at another time.*

The prescriber certification statement can appear on the prescription or on a cover sheet. The MPhA website has a revised [Facsimile Transmission of Prescriptions Template](#) which can be customized by the practitioner. Inclusion of the certification ensures the pharmacist of the authenticity of the facsimile prescription.

Public Safety Risk - Bupropion Abuse

Bupropion, an antidepressant also prescribed for smoking cessation therapy, is emerging as a potential drug of abuse. Recently, the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario issued an alert to all Ontario Physicians and Pharmacists advising them of the lethal consequences of bupropion abuse via inhalation or injection. Bupropion, when ingested via inhalation or injection, appears to cause mild stimulant effects. First pass hepatic metabolism is bypassed resulting in higher plasma levels increasing the potential for seizures. Pharmacists should be aware of the abuse potential of bupropion when dispensing or refilling prescriptions for this medication.

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Tobacco and Public Health: From Theory to Practice
Online Course

Please click [here](#) for more information about this online course.

June 2013

Department of Internal Medicine Grand Rounds

For this month's list, please click [here](#)

June 19 & 20, 2013

Manitoba Pharmacy Technician Conference

Registration deadline is June 10, 2013. For more information, please see the [program poster](#)

August 10-13, 2013

CSHP's 66th Summer Educational Sessions (SES)

For more information, please click [here](#)

October 3-Oct 6, 2013

COPD Management Module and Education Module

Vaccine Schedules

The NAPRA drug schedules indicate that vaccines may be either Schedule 1 or 2 depending on the target indication of the vaccine. Vaccines which fall under Schedule 2 regulations include:

- Influenza vaccine
- Targeted routine vaccinations which are part of a provincial immunization program
- Oral, inactivated cholera vaccine (Dukoral) when used for prophylaxis against traveler's diarrhea and due to enterotoxigenic escherichia coli (ETEC)
- Vaccines requiring special enhanced public access due to disease outbreaks: Meningococcus.

If a vaccine is not indicated as part of the provincial immunization program, then the vaccine would be considered a Schedule 1 drug and therefore require a prescription.

For example, Hepatitis B would be listed under Schedule 2 for a child and under Schedule 1 for an adult.

Pharmacists can view NAPRA's vaccine schedule as well as Manitoba Health's Recommended Immunization Schedule for further clarification.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/div/schedules.html>

NABP .PHARMACY Domain Application Passed Initial Evaluation

The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's (NABP) application to own and operate the domain .PHARMACY has passed the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) initial evaluation.

The NABP proposal for .PHARMACY will be available to legitimate online pharmacies that are located within the United States, Canada and other countries. The .PHARMACY designation to the website would be similar to the Government of Canada domain designation of "gc.ca" on government websites.

NABP, President Karen M. Ryle, MS, RPh, stated in a [recent press release](#) that "By distinguishing .PHARMACY as a domain space exclusively for appropriately licensed, legitimate Internet pharmacies operating in compliance with international pharmacy standards, NABP aims to protect the global public health from dangers of substandard drugs distributed by rogue online sellers."

NABP plans to launch the .PHARMACY generic Top-Level Domain by the end of 2013.

Note:

In the [April 26, 2013 Friday Five article](#) entitled **Nurse Practitioners will soon Prescribe Narcotics and Controlled Drugs: Introduction of New M3P Forms**, one statement has been revised:

All M3P prescriptions written by RNEPs/NPs must include the therapeutic indication however, other prescribers for which this may not yet be a requirement, may also choose to include the therapeutic indication to improve their communication to the pharmacist about the patient.*

(COPDTrec)

Registration deadline is Aug 8, 2013 for the October course. For more information, please click [here](#)

Sept 26 & 27, 2013

Hospice & Palliative Care Manitoba Provincial Conference

Registration deadline is July 31, 2013. For the registration information, please click [here](#)

Sept 19-20, 2013

Asthma Management Module and Education Module (AsthmaTrec)

Registration deadline is July 25, 2013. For more information, please click [here](#)

For additional professional development opportunities, please visit the PD page on our [website](#)

In the original article, this statement incorrectly included Clinical and Physician Assistants. To clarify, Clinical and Physician Assistants are **not authorized** to prescribe narcotics and controlled substances. Clinical and Physician Assistants however must include the therapeutic indication on all prescriptions they issue.

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This e-bulletin is published by the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association and is forwarded to every licensed pharmacist in the Province of Manitoba. The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association therefore assumes that all pharmacists are aware of these matters.