



# College of Pharmacists of Manitoba

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## Prescribing Authority for Pharmacists

DPIN Pharmacist Prescriber Number:

Effective January 1, 2014, all licensed pharmacists have been entered into DPIN as prescribers. The individual pharmacist prescriber number has the prefix of “X” followed by pharmacists’ five digit pharmacist licence number (e.g. X12345). A pharmacist will need to use this prescriber number when entering a prescription into DPIN that he or she has prescribed, when authorizing a continued care prescription, or when adapting a prescription.

The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Regulation authorizes the following distinct types of prescribing by a pharmacist:

1. **Adapt a prescription.** A pharmacist may adapt an existing prescription written by a licensed prescriber however the adaptation is limited to the dosage strength, dosage interval and/or formulation. A prescription can be adapted if the pharmacist has knowledge of the patient, the condition being treated and the drug therapy and IF one or more of the following applies:
  - a. The drug prescribed is not commercially available or may be temporarily unavailable from the supplier,
  - b. Information is missing from the prescription and sufficient information about the drug therapy can be obtained from the patient, the patient’s record or other sources to determine that the adaptation will support compliance of the prescribed dosage,
  - c. Adaptation will facilitate patient adherence,
  - d. Adaptation will enable the patient to benefit from approved or existing third party coverage.

The pharmacist must document and keep a record of all information related to adaptation of the prescription as well as promptly notify the prescriber of the original prescription.

2. **Renew continued care prescription.** A licensed pharmacist under *The Pharmaceutical Act* is authorized to refill a prescription beyond those authorized on the original prescription if:
  - a. the patient has a continuing need or a chronic condition which is considered stable;
  - b. the prescribing practitioner has died or retired within the previous six months;
  - c. the prescribing practitioner has not responded to a refill authorization request;
  - d. the patient’s history with the prescribed drug has not changed;
  - e. the patient has not experienced any adverse reactions to the medication; and
  - f. the prescription was originally filled by the same pharmacy.

A pharmacist who authorizes a refill for a continued care prescription must promptly notify the original practitioner who issued the prescription, unless the practitioner has died or retired. A pharmacist cannot authorize a refill quantity which is larger than that of the original prescription. A benzodiazepine cannot be renewed through continued care unless the drug is used to manage a convulsive disorder or if there is a risk of a seizure due to sudden withdrawal of the medication. Drugs covered under *The Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* also cannot be renewed as a continued care prescription.

*College of Pharmacists of Manitoba Mission:  
To protect the health and well being of the public by ensuring and  
promoting safe, patient-centred and progressive pharmacy practice.*

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### 3. Prescribing of the following:

- a. a drug listed on NAPRA Schedule II or III or an unscheduled drug with a drug identification number or natural health product number,
- b. a medical device approved by Health Canada

### 4. Prescribing in a public health emergency

Adapting a prescription, renewing a continued care prescription, prescribing in a public health emergency and prescribing of a NAPRA Schedule II or Schedule III drug or a medical device, may be performed by **all** licensed pharmacists who are on the College register in accordance with practice directions approved by Council.

Additional training and authorization from the College is required for the following:

1. **Prescribing for a condition listed in Schedule 3 of the Regulation** (included on the website) and often referred to as a self-limiting condition prescribing. Schedule 3 to the Regulation lists the conditions and the category of drugs limited to self-limiting condition prescribing.
2. **Extended practice prescribing** – prescribing of a drug listed in Schedule I of the Manual (NAPRA) by an extended practice pharmacist within the scope of their specialty.

Authorization can be confirmed by checking the pharmacist directory on the College website.

Please view [The Orientation to the New Practice Framework](#) Manual and the applicable [practice directions](#) for additional information.

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