



Friday Five

March 8, 2019

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2019 Annual General Meeting and Awards Presentations

2019 marks the 141st Annual General Meeting of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba (College). This year's event will be held Saturday, May 4, 2019, at the Inn at the Forks, Winnipeg MB.

On-site registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon, complimentary to all practicing members. The AGM is scheduled to begin at 12:30, with the Awards Presentations to follow directly after the AGM is adjourned.

Plan to join colleagues and friends, enjoy a delicious meal, participate in the governance of the College, and celebrate excellence and leadership in pharmacy practice!

Please RSVP your attendance by filling out this [order form](#). All pharmacists holding a current practicing license in Manitoba receive one complimentary ticket to the AGM/Luncheon. Additional guest tickets are available for purchase. Please email the completed

Professional Development Opportunities

Opioid Replacement Therapy 101 Introduction to Clinical Practice
[March 21 & 22, 2019 \(The Pas\)](#)
[April 25 & 26, 2019 \(Winnipeg\)](#)
[June 20 & 21, 2019 \(Thompson\)](#)
[September 13 & 14, 2019 \(Winnipeg\)](#)

[Dementia Care 2019 Professional Conference](#)

March 4 & 5, 2019

[2019 Pharmacists Manitoba Conference](#)

April 12 to 14, 2019

Online Programs:

[Ordering Lab Tests for Manitoba Pharmacists](#)

Visit www.cphm.ca for more information on [Expanded Scope of Practice training](#).

order form to rsvp@cphm.ca by April 15, 2019.

Split Tablets

Many prescription drug dosages require the use of multiple tablets or even the splitting of tablets in order to achieve the desired dose. Splitting prescription drug tablets can be useful for pediatric and geriatric dosing regimens, and may also be necessary for regimens that require gradual dose increases or tapering. More defined dose regimens may even require the combination of whole and split tablets in order to achieve treatment plans with specific dosing.

In keeping patient safety as a primary concern, pharmacists must ensure adherence to appropriate precautions and guidelines when considering the splitting of drug tablets. Considerations should include the following:

- Tablets should have the ability to split consistently into equal parts using either fingers (latex free gloves) or a tablet splitting device. Use of a device is preferred. It is also best if the tablets are scored.
- Tablets that are extended-release, enteric coated, moisture sensitive, or do not have the ability to split consistently in an even manner, should not be considered for tablet splitting.
- Medications with a narrow therapeutic index should not be considered for tablet splitting.

Pharmacists should also ensure that the patient or patient's caregiver:

- Understands the purpose for splitting the tablets
- Understands the intended dose and treatment regimen
- Is physically able to split the tablets in an easy and accurate manner. If the patient/caregiver is unable to complete this, the pharmacist must provide the intended dose regimen in a form that the patient can easily use. This may include splitting the tablets into the required dosage form for the patient, and dispensing in an appropriately labelled container.

[Self-Limiting Conditions Independent Study Program](#)

Visit www.cphm.ca for more information on [Expanded Scope of Practice](#) training.

All PD opportunities are listed on the College website under

[Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities](#)

- Understands and is instructed on how to consume the split tablets; particularly when it involves a combination of whole and split tablets to achieve the desired dose.

The accurate labelling of split tablets is extremely important for patient understanding and compliance. Of note, the quantity indicated on the label must reflect the total quantity of tablets dispensed.

Although pharmacists must always ensure accurate and clear labelling with every prescription dispensed, detailed labelling is of utmost importance for dosing regimens which include the combination of whole and split tablets. Pharmacists must ensure that there is clarity with the labelling as to the quantity dispensed, and the required dosing, when split tablets, or combinations of whole and split tablets are involved. It is equally essential that pharmacists engage the patient and/or caregiver throughout their healthcare process, by providing the needed support with patient counselling and education, and ensuring there is a clear understanding of the drug treatment and dosing regimen.

Collaboration Between Pharmacists and Other Health Care Providers

Pharmacists see a myriad of prescriptions on a daily basis; some may be the typical antibiotic regimen, while others spark clinical debate amongst colleagues in the workplace over a possible indication(s). The latter are often from specialized practitioners, which may present with dosing or indications that may be unfamiliar to the pharmacist. It is the responsibility of a pharmacist to ensure patient safety when dispensing medication. This includes reviewing each prescription for appropriateness, dosage and consistency.

The College has recently received reports of pharmacists advising patients against following written directions from dermatologists for facial application of short-course high potency steroids, without consultation with the prescribing dermatologist. This has resulted in patient confusion, failure of therapy, and a delay in treatment for

patients, resulting in unmet patient needs.

In light of recent occurrences, the College would like to further remind all pharmacists to ensure communication and collaboration is diligently completed and documented in their practice. If a pharmacist feels unfamiliar or uncomfortable with respect to dispensing a product at any point during a patient interaction, it is imperative other health care providers, including prescribers, are involved in order to optimize the resultant pharmacotherapy and deliver positive patient outcomes.

Pharmacists Awareness Month - A Message from the Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety

March is Pharmacists Awareness Month, and the *Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety* (MIPS) would like to celebrate by inviting Manitoba's pharmacists to plan a medication safety event, such as a medication safety presentation. The 'Learn to be Safe! Planner's Guide' includes a variety of suggestions for you to formulate a plan for your event, such as connecting with your location Senior's Centre, to host your event.

Pharmacists are encouraged to celebrate Pharmacist Awareness Month by raising awareness on medication safety issues while offering ways in which the public can manage their medications. This can be achieved by utilising the [5 Questions to Ask About Your Medications](#) fillable sheet while talking with their doctor, nurse or pharmacist, and filling out a [medication card](#), to present at the time they meet.

MIPS would like to support your event by way of offering these resources, and more, as well as ready-to-use presentation materials to conduct your session. Steps on how to host and schedule a medication safety event are outlined in the '[Learn to be Safe! Planner's Guide](#)'. MIPS appreciates your partnership in patient safety!

Messages from Liaison Members

2019 Pharmacists Manitoba Conference - Registration

This year's Pharmacists Manitoba Conference is being

held April 12 – 14, 2019, at the RBC Convention Centre. This event is a great opportunity to participate in professional development activities while also providing a chance to build relationships within the pharmacy community.

For more information and to register for the event, please view this [brochure](#) provided by Pharmacists Manitoba.

Message from CSHP: CSHP Conference

The CSHP-MB Education Committee is proud to present our first event for 2019: An Evening on Congestive Heart Failure! This event features 2.5 accredited CEUs, covering the available evidence for new CHF therapies, updates in CHF management including titration and monitoring of the new CHF medications, and special considerations in palliative CHF care.

The event will be held Saturday, March 23 at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Cocktails start at 5:30pm, dinner to start at 6:00pm (expected conclusion of the event is approximately 9:00pm). Dress code is cocktail attire. This event is FREE for CSHP members, with a \$50 charge for non-members. Since space at the event is limited, CSHP members enjoy exclusive registration until March 8; after that time, it will be opened up to CSHP non-members if space remains. Final registration deadline is March 15.

Please register at the following link:

<https://bit.ly/2SpzS0F>.

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The *Friday Five* e-bulletin is published by the **College of Pharmacists of Manitoba** and is forwarded to every licenced pharmacist and pharmacy owner in the Province of Manitoba. Decisions of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba regarding all matters such as regulations, drug-related incidents, etc., are published in the *Friday Five*. The College of Pharmacists of Manitoba therefore assumes that all pharmacists and pharmacy owners are aware of these matters.

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