



Friday Five

March 22, 2019

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Updates to the Opioid Patient Information Handout

Health Canada has made changes to the standardized opioid patient information handout titled "[Opioid Medicines – Information for Patients and Families](#)", which is to be given with every prescription opioid dispensed from Part A of the "[List of Opioids](#)".

The handout, which originally included a statement that advised patients or their families to call 911 in the case of an opioid-related emergency, has been modified to read "call 911 or your local emergency response provider" to encompass Canadian jurisdictions where the 911 emergency service is currently unavailable. Pharmacists and practitioners practicing in such jurisdictions where the 911 emergency service is available may continue to provide patients with the previous version of the handout until their current stock of pre-printed handouts is depleted.

The handout has also been modified to replace the term "doctor" with the expression "health professional who prescribed your opioid" to reflect the full spectrum of health professionals that may prescribe

Professional Development Opportunities

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

[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.

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

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

opioids.

For more information, please see the Health Canada Notice [here](#).

Voluntary recall of Losartan-containing drugs - Health Canada Notice

On March 9, 2019, Health Canada advised Canadians that multiple lots of drugs containing **losartan** had been voluntarily recalled by Teva Canada, Apotex Inc., Pharmascience Inc., and Pro Doc Limitée due to the potential for a nitrosamine impurity, N-nitroso-N-methyl-4-aminobutyric acid (NMBA). NMBA is a potential human carcinogen; whereby long-term exposure could increase the potential risk for cancer.

Please see the [Health Canada Voluntary Recall Advisory - Losartan](#) for details on the losartan products affected and the specific lot numbers recalled. Please ensure that your pharmacy removes the affected products from pharmacy inventory and contacts all patients that may be affected.

Further to this, on March 14, 2019, Health Canada advised Canadians that Pro Doc Limitée had voluntarily recalled two lots of drugs containing **irbesartan** due to a nitrosamine impurity, N-nitrosodiethylamine (NDEA). These lots were distributed in Quebec only. Please see the [Health Canada Voluntary Recall Advisory - Irbesartan](#) for more details.

There have been multiple recalls of products containing another angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB), **valsartan**, in Canada and internationally since July 2018, due to nitrosamine impurities as well. Please see the following links regarding the previous valsartan recalls:

[July 9, 2018 notice from Health Canada](#)

[August 18, 2018 notice from Health Canada](#)

Save the Date

All PD opportunities are listed on the College website under

[Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities](#)

2019 marks the 141st Annual General Meeting of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba (CPhM). 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. The luncheon will be served at 12:00 noon and the AGM is scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m., with the Awards Presentations to follow directly after the AGM is adjourned.

All pharmacists who hold a current practicing license in Manitoba receive one complimentary ticket to the luncheon portion of the event and additional tickets are available for purchase. Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM and Awards Presentation portion of the event. Please register for the event by completing [this order form](#) and email the order form to rsvp@cphm.ca by April 15, 2019.

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!

Pharmacy Technician Online Renewals are now open

The annual pharmacy technician renewal date is June 1st of each calendar year. All Technicians were notified via email on March 19, 2019 that renewals are now open. The deadline for renewal as a listed pharmacy technician is May 15, 2019, in order to be listed by June 1, 2019. The online listing renewal can be found in your [pharmacy technician portal](#), click **Renew Your Listing**. Those paying by credit card may do so online. If you are paying by cheque, please print a copy of the unpaid invoice and forward it to the College before May 15th along with your cheque.

As a reminder, pharmacy technicians are required to have worked for at least 600 hours in the preceding three-year period (starting three years after first qualifying) and have participated in the performance review conducted by the pharmacy manager, or delegate at the practice site at a minimum of once every two years. This performance review must include documentation of the following:

- number of hours worked as a pharmacy technician (Please be reminded, hours worked as a pharmacy assistant are not eligible under this requirement);
- an assessment of a pharmacy technicians' s job performance in terms of quality of patient care, administrative skills and the ability to work consistently within the rules governing the pharmacy and pharmacy practice; and
- that the Council approved professional development (PD) requirement has been met.

For further information on the PD requirements for pharmacy technicians, visit the [Pharmacy Technician](#) page on the College website.

Message from the College of Pharmacy

It is an exciting time for the College of Pharmacy as we embark on the implementation of our new Doctor of Pharmacy program as well as our new Strategic Plan, while celebrating 10-years in our state-of-the art research and learning space, the Apotex Centre!

As we celebrate our past achievements, and focus on our present opportunities and priorities, we would like to share with you our [latest College Of Pharmacy Newsletter](#).

Alumni of Distinction Call for Nominations

The '*Alumni of Distinction*' is an award bestowed on an eligible College of Pharmacy graduate. We would like to invite nominations for this award at this time. Nominees must be a graduate of the B.Sc. (Pharm) or a post-graduate program of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba and must have served the profession or community in such a way as to have distinguished themselves and, directly or indirectly, brought merit and honour to the College and the profession.

Previous recipients include; Dr. Wayne K. Anderson (2012), Dr. Marilyn E. Morris (2013), Dr. John R. Bend (2014), Dr. Jacob J. Thiessen (2015), Dr. Keith J. Simons (2016) and Dr. Daniel S. Sitar (2017).

If you would like to nominate someone for this award, please contact the College of Pharmacy at

pharmacy@umanitoba.ca with the subject line "Alumni of Distinction" or call 204-474-9306, and we would be pleased to forward the nomination form. Please submit completed forms by March 31st, 2019.

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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.

To download a PDF of this e-newsletter, please click [Friday Five & Newsletter](#), on www.cphm.ca.