Practice Direction
Standard of Practice #10: Transfer of Patient Care

1. Scope and Objective:

1.1. Expected Outcome

This document is a practice direction of Council concerning the standard of practice for the Transfer of Patient Care through the authority of The Pharmaceutical Regulations to The Pharmaceutical Act and The Pharmaceutical Act.

1.2. Document Jurisdiction (Area of Practice)

Compliance is expected from all licensed pharmacists in Manitoba practice.

1.3. Regulatory Authority Reference

Section 56 of the Pharmaceutical Regulation under The Pharmaceutical Act allows Council to create this practice direction.

2. Practice Direction

Transfer of Patient Care at the patient’s or authorized agent’s request.

2.1. Prescription transfers must be initiated at the request of the patient or a person acting on behalf of the patient

2.1.1 A person acting on behalf of the patient includes a licensed pharmacist acting on behalf of the patient, whereby consent to transfer is implied and there is no need for the transferring pharmacist to contact the patient to verify the transfer.

2.1.2 A licenced pharmacist must comply with a patient’s request to transfer care to another health professional.

2.1.3 A pharmacy assistant or pharmacy technician is not permitted to initiate or perform a prescription transfer.

2.2. After receipt of a request to transfer care to another licenced pharmacist, the licenced pharmacist must as soon as reasonably possible, to not interrupt patient’s drug therapy, provide the following information to the pharmacy of the patient’s choice.

2.2.1. Active prescriptions with remaining refills that can be legally transferred

2.2.2. Current prescriptions with no refills remaining, including non-transferrable prescriptions such as narcotics and controlled medications must be included in the requested transfer for informational purposes.
2.2.3. Other information that, in the opinion of the transferring licenced pharmacist, may be required to ensure continuity of care, including but not limited to:

2.2.3.1. Patient specific requests for no substitute brand names or other no substitute various brands,

2.2.3.2. Patient requests for split tablets or some other unique request pertaining to the filling of the prescription,

2.2.3.3. Serious drug interactions or drug therapy problems that have been addressed pertaining to filling of the prescription,

2.2.3.4. Prescriptions that have been inactivated or discontinued that may affect current care,

2.2.3.5. Any monitoring and follow-up plans currently in place,

2.2.3.6. Any unique/relevant information pertaining to compounds,

2.2.3.7. An image of the blister card work sheet to ensure continuity of therapy and drug placement for a blister pack patient Should this not exist, at minimum the prescription transfer must indicate the dosing times of all medications,

2.2.3.8. If circumstances arise that may result in a delay, the licensed pharmacist must inform the pharmacy awaiting the transfer

2.3. All prescription transfers issued by a licenced pharmacist must include the following information:

2.3.1. the name, date of birth, address and if available, Provincial Health Identification Number;

2.3.2. the original prescription number

2.3.3. the name, drug identification number or natural product number if applicable, and strength of the drug as dispensed;

2.3.4. complete directions as they appear on the prescription;

2.3.5. the quantity of the drug;

2.3.6. the name, initials, address and, if known, the telephone number and license number, of the practitioner;

2.3.7. the date on which the original prescription was dispensed;

2.3.8. the number of renewals remaining on the prescription;

2.3.9. the date of the last refill of the prescription;

2.3.10. All relevant third-party insurance information;

2.4. A record must be kept by the transferring licenced pharmacist documenting the date that the prescription was transferred and the information transferred.

2.6. Once a patient has provided authorization for the transfer of their prescription, the pharmacist at the transferring pharmacy must not contact the patient with the intent to change the patient’s mind regarding the transfer, or to question the nature/reason for the transfer.

3. Compliance Adjudication

All documentation must be readily accessible and open to regulatory review.

4. Appendices

Not applicable
A Practice Direction is a written statement made by Council for the purposes of giving direction to members and owners about the conduct of their practice or pharmacy operations. Compliance with practice directions is required under The Pharmaceutical Act.

The process for development, consultation, implementation, appeal and review has been published on the College website.

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