Manitoba Prescribing Practices Program
Prescriptions from other Provinces

From time to time Manitoba pharmacists are asked to fill a prescription for a medication under the Manitoba Prescribing Practices Program (M3P) written by an authorized practitioner from another province which is not on the appropriate M3P form. Prescriptions written by authorized practitioners in other provinces and territories need only meet the requirements in place in their jurisdiction for the prescription to be filled in Manitoba. Therefore, pharmacists can fill prescriptions for medications covered under the M3P program on forms that are in use in the province or territory where the practitioner resides. However, the pharmacist must have the original prescription as faxed prescriptions from other provinces cannot be accepted in Manitoba. Notwithstanding the general prohibition on faxing M3P prescriptions, a prescription for methadone or buprenorphine/naloxone prescribed solely for the purposes of a methadone/ buprenorphine maintenance program (opioid dependence treatment) may be sent via facsimile transmission.

Although the prescription may be legally filled, pharmacists should be certain that the order is written by a licensed physician, dentist, nurse practitioner, registered nurse-extended practice or veterinary surgeon qualified and permitted to prescribe the drugs on the M3P schedule. The prescription still needs to meet the criteria that it be consistent with standards of care and patient safety and is within the authorized practitioner’s scope of practice as required by section 20(2)(b)(iv) and (v) of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Regulations.

Other provinces using specialized prescription forms or programs for narcotic and controlled drugs include: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Each of these provinces also has a unique list of medications under their program which may differ from the M3P list in Manitoba. The pharmacist should contact the appropriate provincial regulatory body to confirm the prescription requirements for M3P medications in that specific jurisdiction. Please see the links below for more information on each jurisdiction’s program, along with the list of medications covered, where applicable. For an out of province patient, a “pseudo-PHIN” 888888884 must be entered into DPIN as Drug Utilization only.

Specialized prescription forms for narcotics and controlled drugs being use in other provinces:

British Columbia - two copy special form

Alberta - triplicate form

Saskatchewan - no special form required for the Saskatchewan Prescription Review Program. However, verbal orders are not allowed for any of the products covered by this program

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan Regulatory By-Laws were recently updated. Pages 57-58 (section 18.1(a)) includes a list of drugs on their Prescription Review Program.

Ontario - no special form or program

Quebec - no special form or program

New Brunswick - no special form or program

Nova Scotia – duplicate form

P.E.I. - no special form or program

Newfoundland - Tamper Resistant Prescription forms

More information about their program