

# Special General Meeting

COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS OF MANITOBA



# Agenda

1. *Pharmacist prescriptive authority for Self-Limiting Conditions and Consideration of additional conditions to be added and the regulation consultation and amendment process required*
2. Governments Legislative Proposal to Amend Section 74 of *The Pharmaceutical Act* regarding member approval of regulations
  - ▶ Member support survey response (84.25% in support, 15.75% in opposition)
  - ▶ Next steps
3. Open Discussion
  - ▶ Update on the expanded review and consultation process for the draft "Practice Direction: Distance Care"
  - ▶ Topics from the members

# Pharmacist Prescribing in Manitoba

COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS OF MANITOBA



# Since the Annual General Meeting

- ▶ ad-hoc committee conducted final review of considered conditions
- ▶ development of rationale document
  - ▶ Part I: Rationale for recommendations
  - ▶ Part II: Consideration of a new category of pharmacist prescribing

# Part I: Schedule 3 Review

**Initial Concept:** That recommendations would be limited to additions of self-limiting conditions to Schedule 3

# Pre-Defined Criteria

## Criteria for Self-Limiting Conditions

- ▶ Can be reliably self-diagnosed by patient
- ▶ Self-limiting condition (resolves without treatment)
- ▶ Laboratory tests are not required for diagnosis
- ▶ Treatment will not mask underlying conditions
- ▶ Medical and medication histories can reliably differentiate more serious conditions
- ▶ Only minimal or short-term follow-up needed

## Criteria for Rx Drugs Suitable for Self-Limiting Conditions

- ▶ Has an official indication for the self-care condition
- ▶ Has valid evidence of efficacy for the self-care condition
- ▶ Has wide safety margin
- ▶ Not subject to abuse
- ▶ Dosage regimen for treatment of self-care conditions is not complicated

# Conditions Considered but not Recommended

- ▶ Allergic conjunctivitis
- ▶ Candidal dermatitis (diaper dermatitis)
- ▶ Cough
- ▶ Dandruff
- ▶ Non-infectious diarrhea
- ▶ Dyspepsia
- ▶ Headache
- ▶ Joint pain, mild
- ▶ Muscle pain
- ▶ Musculoskeletal strains/sprains
- ▶ Nasal congestion
- ▶ Nausea
- ▶ Sleep disorders
- ▶ Sore throat
- ▶ Mild upper respiratory conditions
- ▶ Xerophthalmia

# Rationale for Included Conditions

## Contraception

- ▶ 9% of sexually active women between the ages of 15 and 44 were not using any method of contraception
- ▶ community pharmacist shown to be effective and feasible
- ▶ pt must provide evidence of visiting their health provider within 3 years to prevent test avoidance
- ▶ prescribe combined estrogen and progestin in oral, transdermal, and vaginal (e.g. NuvaRing) formulations oral and injectable progestin only formulations



# Rationale for Included Conditions

## Urinary Tract Infection

- ▶ one of the most common reasons patients seek medical attention in the community
- ▶ trial evaluating patient self-diagnosis reported as being accurate in 84-94% of cases with high patient satisfaction
- ▶ laboratory tests are not required for diagnosis, and treatment will not mask the underlying conditions

# Recommendation: ATC Codes

- ▶ ATC codes in Schedule 3 has been shown to be problematic on several fronts
- ▶ limit prescribing to separate drug products instead of preferred combination drug products – long and costly process to amend
- ▶ lists severely limit pharmacists ability to prescribe according to changes in nationally-accepted and recommended drug treatment guidelines
- ▶ national trend for pharmacists to prescribe to the condition, not a drug list

## Part II

### **Additional Considerations:**

Conditions that don't fit within the criteria for treatment of a self-limiting condition, but evidence exists to support that pharmacist prescribing for these conditions, improves patient care and safety.

## Part II

A tiered structure of prescribing would be the most appropriate framework for pharmacist prescribing in Manitoba

# Part II: Additional Considerations

## Hypertension

- ▶ potential benefits that could be realized if pharmacists were to practice to their full scope in the treatment of hypertension
- ▶ estimated cost savings of \$6,000 / patient
- ▶ reduction of two cardiovascular events for every ten pts treated
- ▶ pharmacists providing assessment and counseling, initiating new antihypertensive or titrating the dose of existing medications

# Part II: Additional Considerations

## Herpes Zoster

- ▶ not publically funded (except in Ontario)
- ▶ recommended as a single booster for all adults 60 years of age or older
- ▶ after consultation with health care professional, patient could make an informed decision on value of immunization and the pharmacist could prescribe and inject

# Questions?

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# Regulation Amendment Streamlining

COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS OF MANITOBA





# Background

- ▶ At the most recent AGM, two members presented a motion to seek amendments to the Pharmaceutical Regulation to expand pharmacist prescribing authority
- ▶ The College's Executive Committee discussed this motion and the ongoing work of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Self-Limiting Conditions with government
- ▶ Government proposed a change to *The Pharmaceutical Act* to streamline the regulation amendment process to enact the motion proposed by members

# Rationale for Streamlining

- ▶ The College's current regulation amendment process is out of alignment with almost every health profession in Manitoba and Canada, in that members must vote to approve regulations.
- ▶ This change to *The Act* will mean that College practices will be in line with the vast majority of pharmacy regulators.
- ▶ The current process is inefficient and slows important Regulation changes that would improve pharmacy practice and patient safety.

# Measuring Member Support

- ▶ Government asked for a measure of member support for the change.
- ▶ After careful consideration on the part of the Executive Committee, an electronic survey of voting members was proposed.
- ▶ Government agreed to this method and an electronic survey was sent to every voting member on May 9, 2017.
- ▶ Voting members were given an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions before the survey closed on May 12, 2017.

# Survey Results

84% OF PARTICIPATING MEMBERS  
INDICATED THEY SUPPORT  
THE PROPOSED CHANGE.

# *The Pharmaceutical Act*

- ▶ Sec 5(2) indicates the College must carry out its activities and govern its members in a manner that serves and protects the public interest.
- ▶ Sec 6(1) establishes Council as the governing body of the College.
- ▶ Sec 6(2) directs that Council is to manage and conduct the business of the College.
- ▶ Sec 6(3) indicates Council has the power, consistent with *The Act*, to govern and administer.
- ▶ Sec 7(3) directs that members of Council are elected as per the bylaws.
- ▶ Sec 71(1) says the Council may make regulations.
- ▶ Sec 75(1) indicates that Council may make by-laws.

# Member Consultation Process

- ▶ A mechanism exists for members, stakeholders or Council to bring forward suggested regulation changes with the College.
- ▶ An initial consultation with the Executive of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists and Pharmacists Manitoba for the purpose of reviewing proposed changes.
- ▶ An opportunity for members, the public and stakeholders to review and provide feedback on the proposed changes as part of a structured consultation process.
- ▶ A meeting with Manitoba Health that included the Deputy Minister of Health and the Legislative Drafting Unit to review and discuss the proposed changes and the requirements for drafting the regulations.
- ▶ A draft of the regulations is submitted to Council for consideration.

# When You Have Concerns with Proposed Amendments

- ▶ Present concerns to Council at a scheduled Council Meeting.
- ▶ Submit their feedback to Council through the established consultation process.
- ▶ Participate in Committee work with the College to shape its future direction.
- ▶ Participate in bi-annual Council election as a voter or candidate.
- ▶ On receiving a written request, specifying a resolution, signed by at least 5% of the members of the College entitled to vote, requesting that a resolution be debated and voted on, the Council must convene an SGM with 120 days for the purpose of debating and voting on the resolution.

# Next Steps

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba submit a formal request to the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living that *The Pharmaceutical Act* be amended to repeal the requirement in section 74 of *The Act* that regulations made by the Council of the College under *The Act* must be approved by the members of the College.



# Next Steps (Cont'd)

- ▶ Ballots and instructions for a mail-in vote will be sent to all members in the coming days.
- ▶ Council encourages all members to provide feedback and ask questions on the proposed change.
- ▶ The voting process will be consistent with *The Act*, Regulations and By-Laws.
- ▶ Information about the voting process will be posted on the College website to support members with their vote.
- ▶ Results of the member vote will be published on the website and shared with members, stakeholders and government in a timely manner.

# Questions?

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# Open Discussion

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# Open Discussion

Additional Topics

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