



Practice Direction

Standard of Practice # 4: Prescribing and Dispensing

1.0 Scope and Objective:

1.1 Expected Outcome

This document is a practice direction by Council concerning the dispensing of a drug prescribed by the licensed pharmacist through the authority of *The Pharmaceutical Regulations* to *The Pharmaceutical Act* and *The Pharmaceutical Act*

1.2 Document Jurisdiction (Area of Practice)

All licensed pharmacists who prescribe a medication subject to their own assessment of the patient are expected to adhere to this practice direction. This practice direction does not apply to Continued Care Prescriptions or Adaptations of Prescriptions.

1.3 Regulatory Authority Reference

Section 56(1) and 56(2) the *Pharmaceutical Act* empowers the Council to create a practice direction for prescribing and dispensing.

2.0 Practice Direction

To mitigate risk, a pharmacist must always consider section 83 of the *Regulations* to the *Pharmaceutical Act* when engaging in the practice of pharmacy.

2.1 A licensed pharmacist must not dispense a drug that the member prescribed based upon the licensed pharmacist's own assessment of the patient unless that licensed pharmacist:

- 2.1.1 Has advised the patient or their agent that they may choose to have the prescription dispensed by another licensed pharmacy.
- 2.1.2 Has provided the patient or their agent with enough information to enable them to participate in making an informed decision about the prescribing and dispensing process including the benefits of having another licensed pharmacist or health care professional review the appropriateness of the prescription,
- 2.1.3 Is satisfied that the patient or their agent has the mental capacity to make an informed decision regarding the prescribing and dispensing process described in 2.1.2,

- 2.1.4 Obtains the patient's or agent's informed consent to dispense the drug which the member prescribed, and
- 2.1.5 Documents the patient's or agent's consent with the dispensing process

2.2 A licensed pharmacist shall not refuse to prescribe a drug because the patient or the patient's agent refuses to have the prescription filled by the licensed pharmacist or another licensed pharmacist in the same practice site.

2.3 Documentation

- 2.3.1 The licensed pharmacist must document and keep record of the consent to dispense including the name of the person consenting and the date the consent was obtained.
 - 2.3.1.1 If the person consenting is not the patient, then the relationship to the patient shall be recorded.

3.0 Compliance Adjudication

- 3.1 All documentation must be readily accessible and open to regulatory review

4.0 Appendices

Not applicable

A College 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.

Development Source:	Standards of Practice Committee
Regulatory Reference:	Section 56(1), 56(2), <i>The Pharmaceutical Regulations</i>
Consultation Close:	September 17, 2013
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