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## Practice Direction

### Standard of Practice # 7 – Test Interpretation

#### 1.0 Scope and Objective:

##### 1.1 Expected Outcome

This document is a practice direction by Council concerning the interpretation of patient administered automated tests through the authority of *The Pharmaceutical Regulations to The Pharmaceutical Act* and *The Pharmaceutical Act*

##### 1.2 Document Jurisdiction (Area of Practice)

Interpretation of patient administered automated tests is open to all licensed pharmacists with the appropriate knowledge.

##### 1.3 Regulatory Authority Reference

Section 56(1) and 56(2) of *The Pharmaceutical Regulations to the Pharmaceutical Act* empowers the Council to create a practice direction for test interpretation.

#### 2.0 Definitions

2.1 Patient administered automated tests – any test that may be performed by the patient without the assistance of a healthcare provider to yield a result, including tests performed with devices or chemical assays.

#### 3.0 Practice Direction

3.1 A licensed pharmacist shall only interpret patient administered automated tests that are within their knowledge, skills and experience.

3.2 The pharmacist is responsible for ensuring personal competence in the interpretation of patient administered tests for which they provide interpretation and advice to patients.



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3.3 A licensed pharmacist shall only interpret test results from patient administered automated tests that are approved by Health Canada.

3.4 When interpreting patient administered automated tests, a licensed pharmacist shall:

- 3.4.1 ensure that all discussions with a patient occur in a confidential manner
- 3.4.2 confirm with the patient that the test was performed correctly as needed (this may include supervising the patient while the patient conducts the test).
- 3.4.3 assess the patient's capacity to perform and understand the test and other relevant information.
- 3.4.4 be aware of test-, device- and patient-specific factors that may affect results, such as gender, timing, sensitivity and/or pregnancy, and discuss any relevant factors with the patient.
- 3.4.5 refer patients to their practitioner, emergency or urgent care centre should a patient administered test indicate further medical follow-up is needed.

3.5 A licensed pharmacist who gives advice to a patient based on a patient administered test result shall:

- 3.5.1 explain the interpretation of the data to the patient
- 3.5.2 explain what action has/will be taken by the pharmacist as a result
- 3.5.3 explain what action, if any, the pharmacist recommends the patient take or will be referred to the patient's practitioner.

## 4.0 Compliance Adjudication

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

## 5.0 Appendices

Not applicable

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*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.*



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

Development Source:

Standards of Practice Committee

Regulatory Reference:

Sec 56(1) and 56(2), *The Pharmaceutical Regulations*

Consultation Close:

September 17, 2013

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