

# The Island Capsule

## Newsletter of the Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board

### December 2005

#### **PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND PHARMACY BOARD**

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Registrar: Neila I. Auld, BScPharm  
Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am-3pm

#### **MEMBERS**

David McLeod, Chair (Lawton's St.Peter's Rd))  
Ken Ramsay, Vice-Chair (Ramsay's Ph)  
Wally Kowalchuk, NAPRA Delegate (Zellers Phcy)  
Linda Gordon-MacEachern (Shoppers Drug)  
Kerry Murphy (Shoppers Drug)  
Iain Smith (QEH)  
Nancy Canham, LayRep  
Connie MacKinnon, Layrep  
Government Rep – Pat Crawford

#### **REGISTRATIONS**

Pharmacists: 159  
Permits: 40 + 7 hospitals + Provincial Phcy  
Students: 28

*This newsletter is distributed to all licensed pharmacists in PEI. Decisions regarding all matters such as regulations, drug related incidents, etc. are published in it. The PEI Pharmacy Board therefore assumes that all pharmacists are aware of these matters. It, and back issues, are also posted on the NAPRA website under "PE".*

#### **ENCLOSURES**

1. Manual Additions
  - a. Guidelines on Counseling
  - b. Guidelines for Self-Assessment of CEUs
2. Adverse Drug Reaction Newsletters
3. Updated Pharmacy List
4. Product Identification: Opioids & Stimulants
5. Practice Experience Requirements for Registration as a Pharmacist
6. Supplemental Standards of Practice for Schedule II & III Drugs

#### **ARE YOU CONNECTED?**

If you aren't connected to the NAPRA E-Link system you could be missing important information that would support your practice. If you've misplaced your user name and password, please contact the Registrar by email at [peipjham@pei.aibn.com](mailto:peipjham@pei.aibn.com) or by telephone. Join our electronic communication network! It's as easy as 1-2-3.

## **BOARD POLICIES and GUIDELINES**

The Board has put a lot of work into the development and provision of Guidelines, Policies, and Regulation Support documents over the past several years. These documents are there to give guidance, as well as a consistent standard of practice and care to patients. Section 29(q) of the Standards Regulations defines *professional misconduct* as “failing to comply with directions issued by the Board in accordance with the Act and Regulations”. While the documents are often titled “Guidelines” – a pharmacist’s failure to follow these Board recommended guidelines compromises their practice.

Should any pharmacists have a concern with any of these directives, please feel free to contact the Registrar and your concern(s) will be forwarded to the committee who worked on the item. Quite often they are actually adapted for PEI from another province or NAPRA.

## **MATERNITY LEAVES**

Pharmacists are reminded that *Authorization Regulations 36(e)* states that licensure for less than four month is eligible for 50% of the licensing fee. Presently that would be  $\$425 \div 2 = \$212.50 + \$25 \text{ CE} = \text{net } \$237.50$ . The fee must be paid at regular registration time (i.e. March 31<sup>st</sup>) with clarification as to the months the pharmacists will not be practicing. Failure to do so would result in a \$100 late fee upon re-licensing in addition to the required fee. The pharmacist must still maintain the 15 continuing education units for the next year’s renewal.

## **HEALTH CANADA ADVISORIES VIA E-LINK**

Health Canada Advisories are now being sent by e-mail directly from the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) to pharmacists via the E-Link system. It is important for pharmacists to ensure they are connected to

this service as it is their responsibility to receive this vital information as well as other important notices distributed from the PEIPB and NAPRA through this service.

Pharmacy Managers are reminded to maintain a system within the pharmacy for the communication of all important notices to employee pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

## **UPDATE ON NAPRA-CPSI RELATIONSHIP**

NAPRA will be developing a closer relationship with the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) as it gains momentum in its work in Canada. For the present time, this includes action on two fronts:

1. NAPRA has accepted CPSI’s invitation to become a Voting Member, and the Executive Director has been identified as the individual who will represent NAPRA at CPSI Member meetings. The first such meeting was October 22, 2005 in Calgary, during the annual Canadian Healthcare Safety Symposium.
2. NAPRA has enrolled as a Partner in the Safer Healthcare Now! Campaign. As a partner, the primary roll will be to communicate information about the campaign and the six institution-based safety initiatives.

For information about CPSI, please see [www.cpsi-icsp.ca](http://www.cpsi-icsp.ca) or [www.saferhealthcarenow.ca](http://www.saferhealthcarenow.ca).

## **NEW INTEGRATED HEALTH CANADA WEB-SITE**

Health Canada has recently launched a new integrated web site at [www.healthcanada.gc.ca](http://www.healthcanada.gc.ca). The new web site is user-friendly and easy to navigate. Information is organized by 11 main subjects, with general information of interest in the top levels. More detail will be available for those needing more

specific or technical information. This means that content that is currently found a Health Products and Food Branch and its directorate web sites, will be found on the new site under subjects such as: About Health Canada, Drugs and Health Products, Food and Nutrition, and Science & Research. Make sure to update your links and bookmarks with the new address to ensure a smooth transition to the new site. If you have any questions, or need more information, please contact the general inquiries email at [info@hc-gc.ca](mailto:info@hc-gc.ca) or the Health Products and Food Branch at [hpfb-dgpsa@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:hpfb-dgpsa@hc-sc.gc.ca).

#### **AN ESTABLISHMENT LICENSE FOR PHARMACY NON-RETAIL SALES OF PHARMACEUTICALS**

Link to the Establishment Licence application form: [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/inspectorate/del\\_doc\\_el\\_elf\\_tc\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/inspectorate/del_doc_el_elf_tc_e.html)

Link to the Establishment Licensing guidance document [www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/inspectorate/gui\\_doc\\_el\\_elf\\_tc\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/inspectorate/gui_doc_el_elf_tc_e.html)

#### **PHARMACY INSPECTOR**

The Board would like to welcome Denise Boulter, from Zellers Pharmacy in Charlottetown, as the new Pharmacy Inspector.

#### **2006 – 2007 FEE INCREASE**

The Board has approved a \$25 fee increase on pharmacists' fees for the 2006/7 licensing year. There will be no change in student or permit fees. This has been the first increase since 2002. Board operating expenses are increasing, as can be seen by the development of practice guidelines and documents. Additionally Investigation and Discipline complaints are on the rise and general cost of living/operating expenses are also rising. Prince Edward Island remains one of the lowest licensing fees in Canada.

#### **CHANGE OF EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE**

Section 35 of the Authorization Regulations states: *the holder of an authorization shall without delay notify the Registrar of any change of status or change of information provided in the most recent application that may affect the person's eligibility to practice or the Registrar's ability to contact the person.*

Section 13(2) of the Pharmacy Act states: *The holder of a permit shall notify the Registrar whenever there is a change of persons working as a pharmacist, certified clerk or registered student in his pharmacy.*

More and more often, the Registrar is **not** informed by either the pharmacy owners or the pharmacist involved when a change in place of employment occurs. Please ensure, whether you are the pharmacist, student, former employer or new employer, that the Registrar is informed immediately (or prior to) upon changes to these positions. Failure by any one party to not inform the Registrar will constitute a violation of the PEI Pharmacy Act and Regulations and may be subject to discipline.

#### **BOARD COMMITTEES**

##### **Complaints/Investigation**

Leslie Smith – Chair (Sobeys)  
James Sampson (Shoppers)  
Paul Gallant (Hunter River)

##### **Continuing Education**

Bethany Lund (QEH)  
Crystal MacEachern (Friendly)  
*Vacancy for Coordinator*

##### **Pharmacy Endowment Board – Dalhousie**

Leslie Smith  
Erin Farrell-MacKenzie

##### **Practice Experience Committee – Dalhousie**

Neila Auld, Registrar

## **Examinations**

Jeff Jardine (The Drugstore)

Mark Walker (QEH)

## **(PEI) Institute of Human Health Research**

Glenn Wells (Sobeys)

## **Standards for Long term Care Facilities**

Kerry Murphy (Shoppers)

Angela Doucette(Provincial/QEH)

The Board appreciates the dedication and contribution pharmacists make to ensure as a profession we advance our practice standards in the same extent as other larger pharmacy regulatory bodies. We would like to thank Marsha for her contribution as CE Coordinator for PEI – as she finishes this commitment in the New Year. We have aligned ourselves more closely with the CE Division (Bev Zwicker) at Dalhousie University – reducing the time commitment for traveling to CCCEP meetings out of province. **Any pharmacist interested in becoming involved with CE in Prince Edward Island (replacing Marsha), please contact the Registrar.** The next few years promise to see national standards evolve in this area, and PEI must be ready to participate to ensure the Island's compliance with the Mutual Recognition Agreement.

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Enclosed you will find “Guidelines for Self-Assessment of Continuing Education Units”. The was approved in order to give pharmacists the flexibility to shape their learning portfolio and knowledge more in line with their practice setting and individual needs. All accredited programs (CCCEP, ACPE, CMA, etc) will continue to be accepted based on the CEU assigned. Non-accredited sources of learning may also be considered for CEU assignment, based on the guidelines contained in this document. Pharmacists must complete “Form M” for every activity, and keep it, along with any supporting documentation, in their Portfolio. “Form M” , the Professional Development

Log, is submitted to the Registrar upon completion, or by January 30 annually. It summarizes the learning activity of the pharmacist for re-licensure.

For re-licensure April 1, 2006 pharmacists must attain a minimum of 15CEUs between January 1 and December 31, 2005. Effective **April 1, 2007**, the CEU requirement will increase to **20 CEUs annually**.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL STANDARDS of PRACTICE**

Pharmacists are advised to access the NAPRA website for the new “Supplemental Standards of Practice for the Sale of Schedule II and III Drugs”. These standards supplement the Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists (adopted by the Board) to more clearly delineate the professional responsibilities for the sale on non-prescription drugs.

## **SCHEDULING CHANGE EPHEDRINE, PSEUDOEPHEDRINE, and ALPHA1-PROTEINASE INHIBITOR (Human)**

The Nonprescription Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC) reviewed the above products (Dec 4-5, 2005) with considerable discussion focused on the issue whether there is evidence that placing restrictions on the sale of ephedrine/pseudoephedrine is warranted in light of their abuse potential as precursors in the manufacturing of Crystal methamphetamine.

Based on the evidence the following recommendations were made:

**Pseudoephedrine and its salts & preparations in single entity products – Schedule II** (applicable factor Schedule II, Factor #4)

**Pseudoephedrine and its salts & preparations in combination products – Schedule III** (applicable factor Schedule III, Factor #8) Pharmacists are advised that in

areas where there is evidence of abuse or particular concern about abuse, pseudoephedrine products should not be located in the self selection area of the pharmacy.

**Ephedrine and its salts in single entity products** (in preparations containing no more than 8mg per unit dose, with a label recommending no more than 8mg/dose or 32mg/day and for use not more than 7 days, and indicated for nasal congestion) - **Schedule II** (applicable factor Schedule II, Factor #4)

**Ephedrine and its salts in combination products** (in preparations containing no more than 8mg per unit dose, with a label recommending no more than 8mg/dose or 32mg/day and for use not more than 7 days, and indicated for nasal congestion) – **Schedule III** (applicable factor Schedule III, Factor #8) Pharmacists are advised that in areas where there is evidence of abuse or particular concern about abuse, ephedrine products should not be located in the self selection area of the pharmacy.

**Alpha1 – proteinase inhibitor (human) – Schedule I** (applicable factors Schedule I, Factors #1, #2, #4)

If no valid objections to these Initial Recommendations are received, it will be finalized on **January 6, 2006** and the National Model Drug Schedules amended accordingly as will the scheduling for the products in PEI.

#### **LOOK-ALIKE: SOUND-ALIKE**

Pharmacists should use caution in dispensing a prescription for either of these two commonly used cardiovascular drugs – **amiloride** and **amilazide**.

#### **NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS**

The Natural Health Products Directorate posts “approved” natural health products on the Health Canada Website. Approved

products are issued an “NPN”, or Natural Product Number and products must have this number for sale. This on-line list is updated monthly and can be accessed at [http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/nhpd-dpsn/list\\_approved\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpfb-dgpsa/nhpd-dpsn/list_approved_e.html)

**Merry Christmas!**  
**&**  
**Happy New Year!**