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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS
Member organization of National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA)

The Island Capsule

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The Island Capsule is a publication of the PEI College of Pharmacists and is forwarded to every registrant of the College on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month.

Pharmacy Technician Scope of Practice

What can registered Pharmacy Technicians do?

As the deadline for registration of pharmacy technicians through the transition pathway approaches (December 31, 2018) more and more pharmacy technicians are becoming registered and practicing to their full scope. The PEI College of Pharmacists currently has 27 pharmacy technicians on the register in a variety of practices across PEI.

Pharmacy Technicians offer a viable solution to pharmacists expanding their scope by allowing them to focus on delivery of clinical service. In order to accomplish this, it is important to understand what a pharmacy technician can do as a regulated health care professional.

In general terms the division of responsibilities can be defined as:

- **TECHNICIANS** are accountable and responsible for the technical aspects of both new and refill prescriptions, (i.e. the correct patient, drug dosage form/route, dose, doctor) and;
- **PHARMACISTS** remain accountable and responsible for the therapeutic/clinical appropriateness of all new and refill prescriptions and all therapeutic consultation.

A pharmacy technician may perform any of the following duties under the supervision of a pharmacist:

- receive written prescription,
- gather, enter and store prescription and patient information,
- prepare and compound prescriptions (including sterile compounding),
- check a prescription for technical accuracy,

- dispense a prescription,
- store and repackage products,
- assist with inventory and systems for drug distribution,
- transfer and receive prescriptions from other pharmacies,
- teach patients about the use of devices,
- participate in research, development, implementation and evaluation of quality assurance and risk management policies and procedures,
- teach the practice of pharmacy technicians in educational institution,
- act as a preceptor to a pharmacy technician students

The pharmacist remains responsible for reviewing all prescriptions, new and refilled, to determine whether the prescription is therapeutically appropriate and safe for the patient, and conduct medication counselling or provide drug information to all patients.

Once the prescription has been approved by the pharmacist, a pharmacy technician can perform the final check of the medication dispensed by another pharmacy technician or pharmacy assistant providing Council has approved the technician final check process in place at the pharmacy.

While the objective of integration is to optimize the role of the technician and pharmacist, workflow will be dependent on a number of individual variables: physical layout, resources/ staffing, patient population/ characteristics etc. There is no 'one size fits all' approach. Each pharmacy will need to determine the best way to integrate pharmacy technicians into a workflow that works best for that location.



Protected Title

Pharmacy Technician is a title restricted to individuals who meet the educational work experience and professional qualifications approved by the College Council. Therefore, individuals who have not met these qualifications may not refer to themselves as pharmacy technicians.



The Council and staff of the PEI College of Pharmacists wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday.

The College office will be closing at 2:30 pm on December 22, 2017 and reopening on December 27, 2017 at 8:30 am.

Important Dates

PEI Jurisprudence Exam

The PEI College of Pharmacists has posted the jurisprudence exam sittings for 2018. They are as follows:

January 29, 2018 9:30-11:30 am

June 18, 2018 9:30-11:30 am

October 22, 2018 9:30-11:30 am

December 10, 2018 9:30-11:30 am

PEBC

The deadline for application for the Spring sitting (April 29, 2018) of the PEBC Evaluating Exam for pharmacy technicians is January 12, 2018.

Continuing Education Deadline

The deadline for obtaining and logging continuing education units in the online Professional Development Log in the member area of the PEI College of Pharmacists website is February 28, 2018.

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