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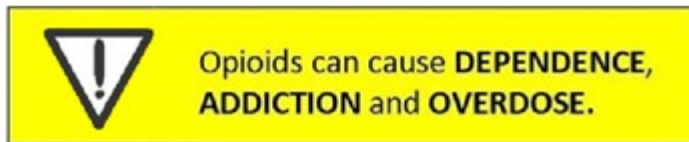


PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
**COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS**  
*Member organization of National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA)*

# The Island Capsule

Edition 4, Volume 19

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.



## Health Canada–New Regulations to Provide Better Info for Patients on Safe Use of Opioid

Health Canada published final regulations in Canada Gazette, Part II that will make [warning stickers and patient information handouts mandatory](#) with all opioids dispensed to Canadians at pharmacies or in doctor's offices across Canada.

The warning sticker will state that the opioid medication can cause dependence, addiction and overdose, and will be applied to the container being dispensed to the patient. The patient handout will include important information about the signs of opioid overdose, and warnings such as not to share the medication, and to always store the medication safely out of reach of children. It will also advise of other serious warnings and potential side effects.

The mandatory warning sticker and the patient handout will begin to be distributed in October 2018.

The new regulations also require pharmaceutical companies to develop and

implement mandatory risk management plans to help characterize, monitor, prevent and manage risks associated with the use of their opioid products. The risk management plans will include additional activities aimed at reducing the potential harms associated with the use of these products, such as including educational materials in packaging for health care providers.

These new measures are part of actions that the Government of Canada is taking to help address the opioid crisis.

Health Canada will update Canadians through social media and the Government of Canada website as these new measures are implemented and come into effect.

For more information, please visit the [Q&A](#) published by Health Canada

## Continuing a Prescription—Controlled Drugs and Substances

Pharmacists have had the authority to provide a continued care prescription under a set of conditions (s.13 Practice of Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technician Regulations) since 2009.

These conditions include:

- a) the patient had a prescription for the same medication given by the prescriber;
- b) the original prescription has expired or all of the authorized refills have been dispensed;
- c) it is not reasonably possible for the patient to obtain a new prescription for the medication;
- d) the patient has an immediate need to continue treatment with the medication;
- e) the original prescription was dispensed at the same pharmacy from which the pharmacist is giving the prescription;
- f) the pharmacist believes it is in the best interest of the patient to give a prescription for the medication.

Pharmacists are reminded that they are not permitted to provide a continued care prescription for a narcotic, controlled or targeted substances under any circumstances. This includes benzodiazepines for seizure disorders.

In addition, pharmacists are required to make reasonable inquiries for the purposes of assessing whether the medication is still safe and effective for the patient taking into consideration the patient's symptoms, medical history, any allergies, other medications the patient is taking and any other information necessary to determine the appropriateness of therapy.

## AUVI-Q

With Health Canada's interim order allow AUVI-Q to enter the Canadian Market, the AUVI-Q 0.3 mg is now available for order.

Pharmacists are reminded to:

- Review the AUVI-Q product information with patients or caregivers. (English and French prescribing information, patient information, instructions for use, and trainer instructions are available for download at the following address: [www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/announcements.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/drug-products/announcements.html))
- Distribute Patient Instructions for Use with each dispensed AUVI-Q auto-injector.
- Use their discretion to conserve supply, as AUVI-Q is packaged such that each box contains 2 auto-injectors plus a trainer device (i.e., opening packages and dispensing single auto-injectors as necessary).
- In terms of the National Drug Schedules, the current listing for epinephrine in the NDS would apply to this formulation, just as it did for Allerject. Therefore, AUVI-Q should be considered Schedule II under the NDS.

## Student Registration Renewal

Students are reminded that the 2017/2018 student registrations expired on September 15, 2018.

Students are required to renew their registration if they are completing structured or unstructured practice experience on PEI. Registration renewal can be completed in the member profile. In addition to the renewal form, students must also submit evidence of updated insurance, evidence of current enrollment in their program of study and provide an preceptor/site approval form for each preceptor and site where they will be completing practice experience.

Students should forward any questions regarding registration renewal to the PEI College of Pharmacists office at 902-628-3561.

## Important Dates

## PEI Jurisprudence Exam

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

October 22, 2018 9:30-11:30 am- application deadline is October 17, 2018

December 10, 2018 9:30-11:30 am-application deadlin is December 5, 2018

Additional dates may be added to accommodate pharmacy assistants completing the transition pathway in time for the December 2018 registration deadline.

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