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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 20

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–EpiPen and EpiPen Jr Auto–Injectors may Stick in their Carrier Tube

Pfizer Canada has advised Health Canada that, in a very small number of cases, some EpiPen (0.3 mg) and EpiPen Jr (0.15 mg) auto-injector devices may not slide out of their carrier tube easily, or at all. This could delay or prevent emergency treatment, possibly leading to patient disability or death.

According to the company, the device label has been improperly applied to a very small number of devices in a way that the device label may become stuck to the inside of the carrier tube. This could mean that the device does not slide out of the tube as easily as expected. The issue is with the device label, and not with the device itself or the drug that it delivers (epinephrine).

EpiPen and EpiPen Jr are used to deliver an emergency treatment of adrenaline (epinephrine) to patients who are at risk or have a history of life-threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis).

Products are not being recalled by Pfizer, as the risk can be mitigated easily by pharmacists and patients by checking devices before an emergency situation arises to make sure they slide easily out of their carrier tube. Pfizer has provided [advice to Health Professionals](#) on their website.

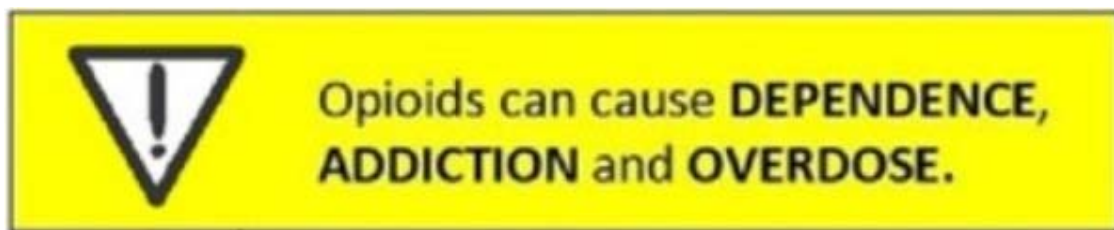
According to the company, there have been no reports of malfunctions related to this issue in Canada.

Health Canada is reminding Canadians of the ongoing supply disruptions of EpiPen and EpiPen Jr auto-injectors and that an alternative product, Auvi-Q (0.3 mg and 0.15 mg), has been made available through an [Interim Order](#)

More information can be found on the Health Canada [Website](#) or on the Pfizer [website](#).

Updated Provincial ASSC UTI Empiric Treatment Guidelines–Now Available

The Health PEI Antimicrobial Stewardship Subcommittee have published an updated Empiric Treatment Guidelines for practitioners when treating urinary tract infections. The Guideline can now be found on the [Health PEI-Microbiology website](#).



Clarification–Opioid Sticker

The College office has been receiving questions regarding the mandatory Health Canada opioid sticker and patient handout required on opioid prescriptions effective October 20, 2018. Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians can view the [list of opioids](#) Opioids subject to the prescription labelling provisions on the Health Canada Website. This list also provides qualifiers on certain drugs, including methadone, buprenorphine and exempted codeine products. Please visit the [Health Canada website](#) for additional information.

CSHP to Hold Event

Save the Date!

CSHP - PEI Branch Fall Continuing Education Day

Saturday, November 3rd, 2018

Location: Classroom A&B, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

Time: 8:30 a.m. arrival and registration

We invite pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to join us for a morning education session with the following speakers and topics:

- Dr. Jan Rogerson (Hospitalist, Queen Elizabeth Hospital) - COPD and the new GOLD Guidelines
- Celina MacLeod (Provincial COPD Coordinator, Health PEI) – Community resources for Islanders with COPD
- Dr. Tim Stultz (Geriatrician, Provincial Geriatrics Program) - Topic TBD 4th speaker and topic TBD

Lunch will be provided

CSHP members: No charge

Non-CSHP members: \$30 (payable on arrival by cash or cheque)

** Anticipated to be accredited for 3 hours of CE credits from Dal CPE **

Program details and registration to follow.

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 registered with other Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (PRA) need to also submit a letter of standing from each PRA where they hold registration.

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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