

The Island Capsule

Newsletter of the Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board

February 2002

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND PHARMACY BOARD

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

MEMBERS

Greg Burton, Chair (Medicine Shoppe)
Angela Doucette, Vice-Chair (Provincial)
Wally Kowalchuck (The Drugstore)
Candace Marcum (Zellers Phcy)
David McLeod (A&M Pharmasave)
Linda Gordon-MacEachern (Sobeys)
Pat Crawford, Gov't Rep
Nancy Canham, LayRep
Connie MacKinnon, Layrep

ENCLOSURES

2002/2003 applications
Manual Additions: Policies/Guidelines
Manual Addition: Regulation Support – Library
Requirements
Adverse Drug Reaction Newsletters
ADR Fact Sheet

A SINCERE THANK YOU

The Board would like to acknowledge the contributions made to the PEI Pharmacy Board,

and the profession of pharmacy in PEI, by outgoing members Terry Walsh and Pat Crawford. The past few years has seen many changes for pharmacy in PEI and across Canada, and both have worked diligently to assure Prince Edward Island pharmacists were able to adapt to those changes.

Terry served as Association representative for three years, and his contributions included Chair, for two years, and NAPRA delegate for two years. Pat served two three-year terms as government's representative.

While we await Pat's replacement, we welcome Wally Kowalchuck as the new Association representative.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

The year 2002 will be eventful for the Prince Edward Island Pharmacy Board, as this is the year the Board is awaiting approval to legislative changes that include drug schedules referencing to the NAPRA model, hospital standards, multiple medication packaging standards, and licensing changes to accommodate the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for pharmacists across Canada. Also, we are continuing progress towards a Continued Competency Program, as per the MRA. There are a number of other projects ongoing through NAPRA, of which the Board is actively involved. I am extremely proud of the efforts the Board has put forth in NAPRA over the years, assuring that professional standards in PEI are not left behind the rest of Canada. NAPRA is recognized internationally, as well. The work on continuing competencies

has received interest from abroad as the mobility of pharmacists internationally becomes more of an issue.

This year you will notice that licensing fees are being updated. The increase is a result of the increased costs to do business, and in maintaining and upgrading standards of practice. While the work of regulatory bodies, such as the Board, is focused primarily on “public protection”, there are obvious benefits to the members of the profession as well. It is vital that these standards be reviewed and continually updated, otherwise our privilege to self-regulation will be threatened. There are national standards we must meet in order to comply with the MRA and maintain our ease of mobility across this country.

Pharmacy continues to evolve in Prince Edward Island. The pharmacist is increasingly sought as “the drug expert” in the health care team. The Pharmacy Board will continue to work towards establishing standards and guidelines as the profession moves forward into expanded health roles. In doing so, both the Registrar and myself are open for comments, questions and suggestions at any time.

Greg Burton

MANUAL UPDATES

The Board has approved a new series of policy positions/statements (that support the PEI Pharmacy Act and its Regulations). These documents are included with this newsletter for insertion into the appropriate section (of your (yellow) pharmacy. It is hoped these documents will assist you in your practice.

Many thanks to Sheri Axworthy and Marsha Watts for reviewing and recommending amendments to the Board’s Library Requirements.

NAPRA EMAIL SYSTEM UP & RUNNING IN PEI

Island pharmacists received their secure email address from the Board in December. Pharmacists are encouraged to take advantage of this service, and check for mail regularly. Both the Board and NAPRA will be distributing important information via the email system. Eventually it will have much broader use, for example, licensing “on-line”, data transfers and

more. Use it to contact the Board and/or NAPRA.

ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CANADIAN ADVERSE DRUG REACTION NEWSLETTER

In the past the Canadian Adverse Drug Reaction Newsletter from Health Canada has been distributed with the Board’s Newsletter. We attempt to get the information out in as quickly as possible; however, there are instances when we do not receive the Health Canada publication in time to mail with the latest newsletter. Health Canada has now made it possible to join the mailing list to subscribe electronically to this Newsletter and to receive notices of health advisories. Go to www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpb-dgps/therapeut/htmleng/adr.html.

This information is also available on the NAPRA website at www.napra.org.

SPECIAL ACCESS PROGRAMME

Health Canada’s Special Access Programme authorizes a manufacturer to sell a specific quantity of drug that cannot be otherwise sold or distributed in Canada to a physician. The drug will be sent to the physician or a hospital pharmacy, but not to a community pharmacy. The physician cannot sell the product to a community pharmacy to dispense to his/her patient.

Because of the nature of these drugs, the physician who has made the decision to prescribe this medication is thought to be in the best position to continually monitor the use of these drugs. In seeking and receiving access to a drug through the SAP, the practitioner agrees to provide a report on the results on the use of the drug, including information on adverse drug reactions and, on request, to account for all quantities of drug released.

The SAP does not authorize the use or administration of a drug – this authority falls within the practice of medicine. Authorization does not constitute an opinion or statement that the drug is safe, efficacious or of high quality. For more information please refer to the Special Access Programme section on the Health Canada web site: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hpb-dgps/therapeut/htmleng/edrp.html.

COMMITTEES

The Board would like to acknowledge the work of the following pharmacists on Committees, both for the Board and for NAPRA:

Investigations/Complaints

Allan Greene, Chair
Jamie Sampson
Rollie Bouudreau

CE/Competence Assessment

Erin Farrell-MacKenzie, CE Coordinator
Shawn Brown, Hospital Rep
Carol Hilchie, Community Rep

Internship Committee

Beverly Martin, Hospital Rep
Sue Ellen Hamill, Community Rep
Kevin Thompson, Community Rep

A new committee, these pharmacists are working with the Registrar to implement the 20- week (Structured) Practice Experience Program in PEI for Foreign Applicants, as well as develop an additional structured program for this group, as well as the balance for new additional program is being done in consultation with NS & NB Societies and must meet the NAPRA Competencies for Entry to Practice for testing.

Pharmacy Endowment Board-Dalhousie

Kendra Day
Erin Farrell-MacKenzie

Practice Experience Committee - Dalhousie

Neila Auld

Examinations

Mark Walker
Jeff Jardine

NAPRA Representation

National Advisory Committee on Licensing (NACL)

Neila Auld, Chair

Interprovincial Regulatory Committee (IPRC)

Neila Auld

NAPRA Voting Delegate

Greg Burton

National Advisory Committee on Pharmacy Practice (NACPP)

Allan Greene

National Advisory Committee on Pharmacy Operations (NACPO)

Wally Kowalchuck

NAPRA ACTIVELY ADDRESSING ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING

Electronic prescribing is inevitable, but because of cost and confidentiality concerns, development is tricky and time-consuming. NAPRA is actively planning for e-scripts. A draft Proposal for Electronic Security Standards has been developed, with input from numerous stakeholders, and Health Canada is now being updated.

Once the standards are in place, a secure e-script delivery system will have to be created. The system will require four key components: transaction integrity, data integrity, authentication and secure routing. Prescriptions must be valid, remain confidential and make their way across the Internet without being tampered in any way.

STANDARD OF PRACTICE #3

As we continue to discuss the Standards of Practice for Canadian Pharmacists, pending implementation by the Board, we are addressing Standard #3 – *The pharmacist identifies, retrieves, evaluates, interprets and provides appropriate drug and pharmacy practice information to achieve safe and effective patient care.*

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of the revised *Minimum Library Requirements for Island Pharmacies*. To provide appropriate pharmaceutical service for optimum patient care, resources must be current and of the highest quality. Please review this Standard in the document previously distributed, or visit www.napra.org for another copy.

PRACTICE ISSUES

First Visit to the Dentist

The recommended age for a child's first visit to the dentist has changed from age three to age one.

The Canadian Dental Association (CDA) encourages the dental assessment of infants to determine risk for early childhood caries, appropriate interventions/or timing of future dental assessments, within six months of eruption of the first tooth or by one year of age.

Honouring Refill Intervals

Both provincial and federal legislation require specific refill authorizations from prescribers to be honoured at the indicated intervals and not before. If an interval has not been specified, in many cases the pharmacist can calculate the interval from the dosage provided.

When patients request refills combined into larger quantities, pharmacists must contact the prescriber directly and receive new verbal directions regarding the quantity dispensed. Patients should be informed of this authorization requirement when they ask for a combined prescription quantity.

JOBS

South Shore Pharmacy-Crapaud, PEI

FT Pharmacist position in an Independent Community pharmacy setting. Friendly, professional environment. Competitive salary and benefits, opportunity for professional and personal growth. Contact George Auld at 902-659-2212 or auldgarx@auracom.com.

South Western Ontario

FT Pharmacists for In/Outpatient Hospitals. No experience required – relocation and signing bonus. Salary range: \$34-\$38/hr. Call Denise at 1-888-837-2624 or at dfrancis@francis-associates.com

Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association Assistant Registrar in Charge of Field Operations (Pharmacist)

As the regulatory body for the profession of pharmacy, the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association is responsible for the governance of the pharmacy practice in the interest of the public.

The Association is currently seeking applications for the position of Assistant Registrar. This is a FT permanent position. Full benefit package and wages discussed in the interview process.

Interested pharmacists can contact;

The Registrar
The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Assoc.
187 St. Mary's Rd.
Winnipeg, MB R2H 1J2

Fax: 1-204-237-3468 or Email

info@mpha.mb.ca Closing date: March 8, 2002

CONFERENCE

The IWH Health Centre's 24th Annual Perinatal Conference will be held at the Westin Nova Scotia in Halifax on April 5th & 6th, 2002.

Content: *Perspectives on Perinatal Health: Unraveling the Experience of Childbirth.*

Collaborate with colleagues who share an interest in achieving perinatal health and wellness along the continuum of prenatal, intrapartum, and neonatal care. Keynote speakers include Dr. Constance Lillas, Dr. Joanne MacDonald & Dr. Michiel Van den Hof with Amy Crawley, & Claire Blight. For more information, please call Heather Simmons at 902-470-8449 or email

heather.simmons@iwk.nshealth.ca.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SESSIONS

Legislation Changes and Continuing Competence

Over the past several years, the Board has been working on numerous legislation changes (both Authorization Regulations and Standards Regulations), including Drug Schedules, Standards of Practice, Hospital Standards, Practical Training amendments, and more.

In April/May the Board will offer one or more sessions for Island pharmacists to hear about these changes and the implications to pharmacy practice. Also, a presentation will be offered on the National Continuing Competency Program and what it means for Island pharmacists.

There will be an opportunity for pharmacists to have their questions answered regarding the PEI Pharmacy Act, its Regulations and Policies.

Further information and details will be forthcoming, once government confirms the legislation changes.