



Friday Five

May 19, 2017

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A Question of Competence: Providing Non-Prescription Medications for Use in Animals

The College has recently received complaints from veterinarians concerned about pharmacists supplying insulin to cat owners. The veterinarians were concerned that the pharmacist was not intervening in the purchase of insulin to ensure the safe and appropriate use for the animal. In one case brought to the College's attention, the cat was given insulin that was purchased without a veterinarian's prescription and which ultimately resulted in the cat's death.

Insulin is a Schedule II drug. Schedule II drugs require professional intervention from the pharmacist and possibly referral to another practitioner. Pharmacists must engage with every customer purchasing insulin or any other Schedule II drug from the pharmacy to ensure the drug is being used safely and appropriately.

Providing insulin or any other non-prescription medication to an animal requires that the pharmacist must be competent in the pharmaceutical care of animals. This requires very specialized knowledge and training because drug metabolism in animals is species-specific and very different from that of humans. A drug that may be safe for your baby or your cat, may be deadly for your dog. Competency in veterinary pharmacy requires significant training and cannot be achieved by participating in a few continuing education courses. If a pharmacist is not competent in veterinary pharmacy, they should not be providing any non-prescription medications including schedule II or schedule III drugs without consulting with the animal's veterinarian.

Providing medications to animals must be done only under the direction of a veterinarian that has assessed the animal and prescribed the appropriate drug therapy. Even if the animal has received the drug safely before, the health status of the animal may

Professional Development Opportunities

Rady Faculty of Health Sciences,
University of Manitoba
presents:

[Endocrine Day](#)

June 2, 2017

Online Programs:

[Oral-Systemic
Health Education for Non-Dental
Healthcare Providers](#)

[Ordering Lab Tests
for Manitoba Pharmacists](#)

Visit www.cphm.ca
for more information on
[Expanded Scope of Practice](#) training.

[Self-Limiting Conditions
Independent Study Program](#)

Visit www.cphm.ca for more
information on [Expanded Scope
of Practice](#) training.

have changed requiring assessment by the veterinarian. Reinforcing these important messages with customers requesting non-prescription medications for their pets, may help to save the life of their beloved furry family member.

Upcoming Pharmacy Technician Final Check Application Deadlines

The [Pharmacy Technician Final Check Application](#) was developed by the College for use in both community and hospital pharmacy. The application process requires pharmacy managers and staff to assess current dispensing processes to determine the changes required for a pharmacy technician to perform the final check safely and in compliance with legislation.

A Pharmacy Technician Final Check application must be received by the College no later than **three weeks prior to the next Council meeting** to ensure all necessary documentation is received and complete for review by Council. Incomplete or missing documentation may delay review and approval of the application by Council. The College has developed the following documents to provide assistance in completing your application:

- [Pharmacy Technician Final Check Information Sheet](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Know Your Role: Pharmacy Technician Scope of Practice](#)

The upcoming deadlines for Pharmacy Technician Final Check applications are:

- **May 29, 2017** for consideration by College Council on **June 19, 2017**
 - **September 11, 2017** for consideration by College Council on **October 2, 2017**
 - **November 20, 2017** for consideration by College Council on **December 11, 2017**
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Stay Up-to-Date on Patient Safety

A recent Pfizer Canada recall of [EpiPen and EpiPen Jr auto-injectors](#) highlights the importance of a pharmacy's drug recall procedure. Under the [Standards of Practice #6: Drug Distribution and Storage](#) practice direction, pharmacy managers and staff are responsible for ensuring drug recall procedures are in place. This includes staying informed about medication and product recalls.

In addition to subscribing to Health Canada's [MedEffect e-notice](#) service as required, pharmacy managers can also subscribe to the [Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada Safety Bulletins](#) and Health Canada's [social media, widget, and mobile application](#) options to stay informed of all the latest medication and product recall information.

Annual Golf Tournament Invite

All PD opportunities are listed on the College website under

[Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities](#)

The College is looking forward to spring and what better way to kick off spring fever, than golf!?

This year offers a change to the College's annual golf tournament with a shift from September to June and a new course just 30 minutes from Winnipeg. [Scotswood Links](#) boasts a beautiful new clubhouse and we are excited to be among the first to use the new space. A picturesque golf course in a quiet and relaxing country setting with charming hospitality makes Scotswood Links one of Manitoba's premier courses.

Take advantage of the early bird and student registration fees and register yourself for a foursome today using our [2017 Registration Form](#) ! Please see our newly added [Upcoming Events](#) page for more information including sponsorship opportunities.

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The *Friday Five* e-bulletin is published by the **College of Pharmacists of Manitoba** and is forwarded to every licenced pharmacist and pharmacy owner in the Province of Manitoba. Decisions of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba regarding all matters such as regulations, drug-related incidents, etc., are published in the *Friday Five* . The College of Pharmacists of Manitoba therefore assumes that all pharmacists and pharmacy owners are aware of these matters.

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