

Discussion Document on Streamlining the Regulation Amendment Process



Contents

Issue 1

Current Status 1

Background 1

Quick Facts about the Proposal to Streamline the Regulation Amendment Process 2

Action 2



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Issue

Government has proposed a revised process to streamline the regulation amendment procedure which will result in a change to *The Pharmaceutical Act*. Details will be announced at the upcoming Special General Meeting (SGM) on June 19, 2017.

Current Status

The College is engaged in a process of consultation with members to determine if members are supportive of a legislative change to *The Pharmaceutical Act* so that Regulation amendments brought forward by Council are forwarded directly to government for consideration, following member, public and stakeholder consultation.

Background

At our recent Annual General Meeting (AGM), members Carey Lai and Barrett Procyshyn spearheaded a motion asking Council to review and seek amendments to the Pharmaceutical Regulation (Regulation). The goal of this motion is to expand pharmacist prescribing authority with respect to self-limiting conditions and travel health to better align with pharmacy practice across Canada. At the AGM, Vice-President Kevin Hamilton described the work that has happened since October 2015 by Council's Ad-hoc Committee on Self-Limiting Conditions to identify additional self-limiting conditions that may also be added to the Regulation. Please see the [Discussion Document on Pharmacist Prescribing](#) for details.

Council heard the memberships' message and shares its views regarding the need to amend the Regulation to add additional self-limiting conditions for which authorized pharmacists can prescribe medication to improve timely access to needed patient care. Executive Committee members brought this important issue forward as a priority during a meeting with government.

At that meeting, the Executive Committee was reminded of the fact that the College's regulation amendment process is out of alignment with almost every health profession in this province in that members must vote to approve regulations. This added step makes our profession slow to implement changes needed to improve patient care and safety, in comparison to the other health professions. Government presented the College with the opportunity to streamline our regulation amendment process through a legislative proposal to amend *The Pharmaceutical Act* so that Regulation amendments brought forward by Council are sent directly to government for consideration, following a robust member and stakeholder consultation process. This change will bring our Regulation amendment process for pharmacy practice in line with the vast majority of healthcare professions. The proposed change will allow the College to respond in a far timelier manner to make improvements that will enhance patient care and safety.

*College of Pharmacists of Manitoba Mission:
To protect the health and well being of the public by ensuring and
promoting safe, patient-centred and progressive pharmacy practice.*

Member of the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities

Government then requested the College engage with membership to gauge its support for this amendment. The Executive Committee spent time considering this request and decided that the best way to measure member support for a legislative change was an electronic survey sent to all voting members. On Tuesday, May 9, 2017 the survey was sent out and was closed on Friday, May 12, 2017. The survey found that 84 per cent of participating members were in support of a legislative change that will streamline the College's regulation amendment process.

These results were promptly forwarded to government. Government has now requested that members formally consider their support on the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba submit a formal request to the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living that *The Pharmaceutical Act* be amended to repeal the requirement in section 74 of *The Act* that regulations made by the Council of the College under *The Act* must be approved by the members of the College.

Quick Facts about the Proposal to Streamline the Regulation Amendment Process

- The College's current regulation amendment process is out of alignment with almost every health profession in this province, in that members must vote to approve regulations.
- This change to *The Act* will mean that College practices will be in line with the vast majority of pharmacy regulators.
- A consultation survey sent to all 1,525 voting members indicates that 84 per cent of members who participated in the survey support this legislative proposal.

Action

Council is committed to ongoing consultation with members on any and all regulation changes, just as it has been in the past. To provide your feedback or ask questions about this proposed change to *The Act* please contact the following Council members:

president@cphm.ca (to contact Jennifer Ludwig, President); and/or
vicepresident@cphm.ca (to contact Kevin Hamilton, Vice-President).

The College encourages all members to raise their voices on this issue:

- Join us for the SGM on Monday, June 19, 2017, at St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre, 351 Tache Avenue, to discuss the proposed change to *The Act*; and
- Send your messages of support and feedback to your Council.