

## LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR SCOPE OF PRACTICE / AUTHORIZED ACTS\*

April 2020

**\*Portions of this chart are not applicable at this time due to the Health Canada CDSA s.56 temporary exemption**

### **March 26, 2020: Important update regarding the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic**

Health Canada has issued practitioners and pharmacists a **temporary *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) subsection 56(1) class exemption*** from the provisions of:

- Subsection 31(1), and section 37 of the Narcotic Control Regulations (NCR)
- Sections G.03.002 and G.03.006 of Part G of the Food and Drug Regulations (FDR)
- Paragraphs 52 (c) and (d), subsection 54(1) of the Benzodiazepines and Other Targeted Substances Regulations.

While this exemption is in effect:

- Pharmacists may dispense any narcotic pursuant to a written or verbal order from a practitioner
- Pharmacists may dispense a refill of a previous narcotic or controlled drug prescription pursuant to a written or verbal order from a practitioner
- Pharmacists may transfer prescriptions of narcotics and controlled drugs to another pharmacist in Ontario and if they have already been transferred, may be transferred to another pharmacist
- Prescriptions for a benzodiazepine or other targeted substance that have already been transferred, may be transferred to another pharmacist
- Pharmacists may adapt and/or renew prescriptions for controlled substances for the purposes of facilitating continuation of treatment

Refer to the Health Canada's [Subsection 56\(1\) Class Exemption for Patients, Practitioners and Pharmacists Prescribing and Providing Controlled Substances in Canada during the Coronavirus Pandemic](#) and related [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for further information.

OCP practice tools affected by the CDSA exemption have been updated. Please refer to the OCP website for the [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) for Pharmacy Professionals](#) webpage.

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\*The **Health Canada s.56 exemption** described on Page 1 is NOT reflected in the chart below. This exemption expires on the earliest of September 30, 2021, the date it is replaced by another exemption, or the date it is revoked.

Pharmacist (R.Ph) in Part A	Registered Pharmacy Student <sup>1</sup> / Intern <sup>1</sup>	Pharmacy Technician (R.Ph.T)
Provide info & educate patients		Not if clinical or therapeutic
Dispense, sell & compound drugs	✓	Can perform technical check for product release. R.Ph responsible for therapeutics.
Accept verbal Rx *Refer to s.56 exemption on Page 1		Cannot accept verbal Rx for narcotics, controlled drugs, benzodiazepines or other targeted substances.
Authorize Rx transfers (narcotics & controlled drugs cannot be transferred; benzodiazepines & other targeted substances can only be transferred once; refer to the Fact Sheet - <a href="#">Prescription Transfers</a> ) *Refer to s.56 exemption on Page 1		Cannot authorize transfers for benzodiazepines or other targeted substances
Delegate a Controlled Act	✗	✗
Accept delegation of a Controlled Act (refer to the <a href="#">Medical Directives and the Delegation of Controlled Acts Policy</a> )	✗ (students) ✓ (interns)	✓
Supervision of a Pharmacy	✗	

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<sup>1</sup>Under supervision; level of supervision to be determined by supervising pharmacist

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Pharmacist (R.Ph) in Part A	Registered Pharmacy Student <sup>1</sup> / Intern <sup>1</sup>	Pharmacy Technician (R.Ph.T)
Prescribe specified drug products for smoking cessation only		
<b>Renew &amp; Adapt Prescriptions</b> <b>(alter dose, dosage form, regimen, or route of administration)</b> Excludes narcotics, controlled, targeted and monitored substances No therapeutic substitution <b>*Refer to s.56 exemption on Page 1 and the Guideline – Initiating, Adapting and Renewing Prescriptions</b>	✓	X
Perform a procedure on tissue below dermis (piercing with a lancet-type device)		Under direction of a R.Ph in Part A (who is physically present)
<b>Administer a substance* by injection or inhalation for the purpose of education and demonstration</b> <b>*specified in the Pharmacy Act Regulation</b> <b>*with approved training only</b>		X
<b>Administer an authorized vaccine* to patients (five years of age or older)</b> <b>*specified in the Pharmacy Act Regulation</b> <b>*with approved training only</b>		X
<b>Administer the influenza vaccine* (under the UIIP) to patients (two years of age or older)</b> <b>*with approved training only</b>		X

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<sup>1</sup>Under supervision; level of supervision to be determined by supervising pharmacist