



PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACY TECHNICIANS: *What Can They Do For Me?*

Did you know there can be many people that work in your pharmacy?

It's important to know the role they each can play to support your care. Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are regulated health professionals in Ontario. Learn about what they can do for you as a pharmacy patient.



PHARMACISTS

- ✓ Prescribe medications for a list of [19 minor ailments](#)
- ✓ Make sure your prescription is the right drug and dosage to best treat your condition
- ✓ Make sure your prescription does not negatively interact with any allergies you may have or other medication you're taking
- ✓ Counsel you on potential side effects of your medication and how to take it properly, including demonstrating how to inject insulin or use your new inhaler
- ✓ Provide a medication review, ideal for patients taking multiple medications at once, where your pharmacist reviews all of your medications with you and ensures you know how to take them correctly
- ✓ Provide the flu shot to you and your family members two years and older¹
- ✓ Renew your prescription, when appropriate, in between regular doctor's visits to help manage your care²
- ✓ Adapt your prescription, when appropriate, which can include changing your medication from a capsule to a liquid, adjusting the dose of your medication, and changing how often you take it
- ✓ Prescribe medication to help you quit smoking and offer ongoing monitoring and support

PHARMACY TECHNICIANS

- ✓ Make sure that you are dispensed the correct medication and the correct quantity
- ✓ Make sure that all of the information on your prescription label is correct, including your name, the prescriber, and the directions
- ✓ Teach you how to use medical devices, such as an inhaler spacing device and blood glucose meter
- ✓ Update and maintain your patient profile or health record to ensure it's up-to-date at all times
- ✓ Accept authorization from your physician to renew your prescription
- ✓ Provide the flu shot to you and your family members two years and older¹
- ✓ Accept verbal authorization from physicians for your prescription³
- ✓ Authorize transfers for prescriptions⁴

1. Applies to pharmacies participating in Ontario's Universal Influenza Immunization Program
2. Excludes narcotics, controlled, targeted and monitored substances
3. Cannot accept verbal Rx for narcotics, controlled drugs, benzodiazepines or other targeted substances
4. Cannot authorize transfers for benzodiazepines or other targeted substances

Some pharmacies also employ Pharmacy Assistants. These staff are part of the pharmacy team and may have their own specific duties but are not regulated health professionals and are not registered with the College.

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about what pharmacists and other members of the pharmacy team are qualified to do. You can also visit our [Find a Pharmacy/ Pharmacy Professional Tool](#), also known as a public register, to learn more about your pharmacy professional including their qualifications, languages spoken and other information to help you make an informed decision as a patient.