

# SCOPE newsletter

November 2019



SASKATCHEWAN  
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY  
PROFESSIONALS

Council Highlights	2
Bridging Pathway Deadline for Pharmacy Technician Candidates	5
DPEBB Influenza Immunization Program Update	5
Bylaw Updates: Section 10, Part K	6
Welcome to Natalie and David	6
Questionable Advertising Materials	7
Notes from the Field	8
Call for SCPP Award Nominations	9
COMPASS Update	11
MySaskHealthRecord	13
Ask "What Matters to You?" When It Matters Most	13
SCPP Members Facebook Group	13
Membership Summary July 1, 2019	14
From the Desk of the Dean	15
Upcoming Continuing Education	16
PEBC Examination Dates	16

## Disease Prevention and Travel Health Services Policy and Framework for Saskatchewan Pharmacists

Council has added prescribing for preventable diseases to the "Minor Ailments and Self-care" prescriptive authority category for pharmacists. The enabling regulatory bylaws came into force on April 5, 2019, and a new policy and framework was approved by Council on September 26, 2019.

This means that pharmacists can prescribe vaccines and drugs for disease prevention in Canada and for international travel according to the training requirements specified by Council and evidence based medSask guidelines approved by Council.

Pharmacists can choose the levels of service they wish to provide; however, the bylaws expect them to be competent to perform these new authorized practices at the level they choose to practice.

For more information, please review the following documents.

[Disease Prevention and Travel Health Services Policy and Framework for Saskatchewan Pharmacists](#)

[Announcement emailed October 4, 2019](#)

[medSask Guidelines and CPDPP Training](#)

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## Reminder: The College has Moved to Leader Place

On September 1, 2019, the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) moved into Leader Place (formerly the Leader-Post building) in the east end of Regina.

The new College address is:  
100-1964 Park Street  
Regina, SK S4N 7M5

100-1964 Park Street  
Regina, SK S4N 7M5

Tel: 306-584-2292  
Fax: 306-584-9695  
Email: [info@saskpharm.ca](mailto:info@saskpharm.ca)

## SCPP COUNCIL 2019-2020

### PRESIDENT

Marilyn Youghans, Lloydminster

### PRESIDENT-ELECT

Stephanie Scott, Weyburn

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Palima Shrestha, University of Saskatchewan

### PHARMACY TECHNICIAN OBSERVERS

Lyndsay Brakstad, Tisdale

Michelle Miller, Saskatoon

The SCOPe newsletter is published by the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) and is emailed to active members of the College. Decisions on matters such as regulations, drug schedule changes, etc., are published in SCOPe. All members are expected to be aware of these matters.

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

On September 24, 2019, Council received a full day of Board governance education organized by the Network of Interprofessional Regulatory Organizations (NIRO). There were over 125 attendees from Saskatchewan from various health care and other self-regulating organizations. On September 25, Council participated in a facilitated session with an expert on governance from the Ottawa Institute on Governance (IOG) to assist Council with restructuring the current composition of Council. A task force has been established to continue the work and provide a draft plan to Council at the February meeting. Council met for their regular meeting on September 26.

### Environmental Scan

Each councillor was provided with an opportunity to discuss emerging issues arising since the last Council meeting. Some of the following issues were raised in at least one division or may have been common across the province:

- Medication shortages, especially for medications where there is not a same-class alternative, continue to be a concern. Extra care and attention are required to ensure patients are not adversely affected by medication shortages;
- The current recall of all ranitidine products;
- The need to ensure patients at risk for opioid overdose have access to, or are provided with, a naloxone kit, including clients within the provincial correctional system;
- Patients are beginning to inquire about flu immunization. In some provinces, the start of flu immunization programs has been delayed. Saskatchewan's program begins October 21, 2019;
- Concerns with the proper handling of cytotoxic medications and those on the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) list and getting the necessary information out to pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and other persons working in the pharmacy;
- Request to review the current Appraisal Training and Assessment program (ATA);
- Medications provided to patients being treated for tuberculosis are now included on the patient's Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) profile;
- Transition(s) of care from hospital or care facility to another, or to home, safely with the necessary medication information continues to be a challenge, including issues regarding Exceptional Drug Status (EDS), which can cause delays or interruptions in treatment, and drug interaction management;
- Some provinces are experiencing a pharmacy technician shortage and are starting to recruit in Saskatchewan;
- More clarity was requested for practitioners writing prescriptions to meet the requirements of the Prescription Review Program (PRP);
- The University of Saskatchewan is rolling out year three of the PharmD program, fourth-year practicum placements length will be eight weeks and will be held throughout the entire year.

Councillors discussed the NIRO Board Education Day and all felt it was very worthwhile. The education will be repeated yearly and available to all Council members.

### Registrar's Report

The Registrar reported that

- There are proposed amendments to the Tobacco Act regarding vaping, which will prohibit the sale of vapour products in a pharmacy;

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## SCPP STAFF

### DAVID CHOU

Pharmacy Policy and Practice Consultant

### PELESHIA DUBIDAD

Administrator – Member Relations,  
Systems and Communications Support

### PAT GUILLEMIN

Pharmacy Permits and Systems Manager

### KATHLEEN HANDFORD

Director of Policy and Legislation

### RAY JOUBERT

Associate Registrar

### FATIMA KHAN

Field Officer

### DARLENE KING

Reception and Office Operations  
Coordinator

### CHANTAL LAMBERT

Assistant Registrar, Complaints Director

### CHRISTINA MCPHERSON

Administrative Assistant to the  
Deputy Registrar

### HEATHER NEIRINCK

Registration and Systems Administrator

### LORI POSTNIKOFF

Deputy Registrar

### NATALIE REDIGER (TERM)

Pharmacy Policy and Practice Consultant

### KIM SAMOILA

Policy Analyst

### JEANNETTE SANDIFORD

Assistant Registrar – Field Operations  
and Quality Assurance

### TAMI SCHWEBIUS

Complaints Manager

### BRITTANY SHARKEY

Certified Compounding Inspector –  
Field Officer

### AUDREY SOLIE

Registration Administrator

### MEAGHAN UNDERWOOD

Administrative Coordinator for Field  
Operations and Quality Assurance

### INGRID WAKEFIELD

Executive Assistant to the Registrar

### JEANA WENDEL

Registrar

### CHERYL WYATT

Communications Coordinator

### CAROLINE ZAREBA

Administrator - Pharmacy Relations,  
Systems and Communications Support

- Health Canada has approved [supervised consumption sites](#) for illicit opioids and other substances in Saskatoon;
- The Medical Laboratory Licensing Act slated for review by the provincial government in the spring of 2019 has been put on hold;
- PrescribeIT, an interface allowing electronic prescribing, is in a pilot phase in one rural pharmacy in Saskatchewan;
- NIRO is working on a website to enhance public awareness of regulation of healthcare professionals;
- Self-regulation is in the news through reviews contracted by ministries and regulatory authorities;
- As of the September 26, 2019 Council meeting, there were 400 pharmacies issued permits in Saskatchewan, a growth from 367 in 2016. There are 1,920 pharmacists and 318 pharmacy technicians licensed in the province.

## Strategic Plan Progress

Registrar Jeana Wendel updated Council on the progress of the strategic plan.

The goals of the strategic plan are:

1. Advancing Public Safety in Pharmacy Services
2. Ensuring Priorities and Resources are Aligned to Achieve Goals
3. Performance Management
4. Maintaining a Self-Regulated Profession
5. Increasing Recognition of Pharmacy Professionals as Essential Members of the Health
6. Supporting Health Care Public Policy

The College continues to use the standardized quality assurance process (COMPASS).

The College continues to implement a comprehensive performance management system, including a risk identification, management and rating process used by Council.

The College, through the direction of Council, continues to develop a database to provide more information to the public and our stakeholders.

As the current strategic plan expires at the end of 2019, Council engaged the services of Laura Edgar from the Institute on Governance (IOG) to create a new strategic plan, which was approved by Council in June 2019. The new plan becomes effective January 2020 and includes four key goals as well as updated vision, mission and value statements. More information to follow.

## Bylaw Proposals

Several bylaw proposals were discussed and approved by Council including:

- A proposal to amend the regulatory and administrative bylaws to move Plan B from Schedule II to Schedule III.
- A proposal to amend the bylaws to require a criminal record check prior to licensure for all members.
- A proposal to amend Part N – Schedule I Drugs to correct an administrative error and delete unnecessary subsections.

On the direction of Council, the College will provide the required submissions to the Ministry of Health and Information Services Corporation (ISC) for final consultation and approval. Further communication will be provided pending approval of the bylaws and official publication in the Saskatchewan Gazette.

Section 10 of Part K of the SCPP Regulatory Bylaws has been updated to expand pharmacists' prescribing authority in extraordinary circumstances as determined

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by the College. For more information and restrictions on the new prescribing authority, see [page 6](#).

Council was provided with preliminary information regarding a review of conditional licenses of University of Saskatchewan graduates, in general, and as it relates to the PharmD program. More information will be considered before any decisions are made.

An amended proposal to the proposed bylaws from the May Council meeting regarding inducements was reviewed and approved in principle by Council. The College will begin consultations with key stakeholders as per the Ministry of Health’s consultation process.

Council reviewed and approved the final draft of “Disease Prevention and Travel Health Services Policy and Framework for Saskatchewan Pharmacists.” medSask has developed guidelines for modules 1, 2 and 3. More information and training dates will be provided to members by the College, and by Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP). Please watch for the updates on the SCPP website under the [Professional Practice tab](#).

Council approved a change to the SCPP Jurisprudence (law) examination policy to include accommodation requests.

Council requested further changes to the proposed Long Term Care Standards prior to approval.

As a result of the Provincial Auditors Report published June 2019, SCPP, the Ministry of Health, the College of Physicians and Surgeons and other Prescription Review Program (PRP) stakeholders have formed a working committee to address recommendations from the report.

### COMPASS – Safety Attitudes Questionnaire

The Safety Attitudes Questionnaire is a validated tool that explores the safety culture within a work environment. The questionnaire was designed to assess the current state of the safety culture from the perspective of the pharmacy staff.

The questionnaire measured staff’s perspective of:

- teamwork in terms of having input into safety;
- culture in terms of how medication errors/incidents are managed and reflecting upon a shift from “blame and shame” to a system-orientated quality improvement process;
- job satisfaction and pharmacy morale;
- stress recognition and the risk to patient safety;
- perceptions of management and whether management supported daily efforts to ensure patient safety; and,
- working conditions including resources, training and access to required information.

### Compounding

Council considered information presented for decision regarding “opting out” and made the decision that **all pharmacies will meet the minimum Level A standards for compounding**. The decision was reached after the input of all councillors and a review of the requirements under *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act*, Section 23 and a review of the requirements set by the other Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities in Canada.

#### Authorized practices

23(1) No person other than a licensed pharmacist, licensed pharmacy technician, or intern practising under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist or a licensed pharmacy technician, may prepare, compound, dispense or sell drugs in Saskatchewan.

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**MISSION**

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals serves the public interest by regulating the profession of pharmacy to provide safe, competent pharmacy care in Saskatchewan.

**VISION**

Advancing quality pharmacy care for a healthier Saskatchewan

**VALUES**

- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Visionary Leadership
- Collaboration
- Education

**GOALS**

- Advancing Public Safety in Pharmacy Services
- Ensuring Priorities and Resources are aligned to Achieve Goals
- Maintaining a Self-Regulated Profession
- Increasing Recognition of Pharmacy Professionals as Essential Members of the Health Care Team
- Supporting Health Care Public Policy

Compounding is an authorized practice that has been granted to pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns under the supervision of a pharmacist or licensed pharmacy technician. The expectation is that the public should be able to receive a Level A compound at any pharmacy in Saskatchewan in a safe manner that meets the practice standards.

For more information on compounding and the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) standards, please review the CompEX (compounding excellence) section of the Professional Practice tab on the SCPP website [here](#), as well as special MicroSCOPE editions dedicated to the CompEX program.

NAPRA has introduced a new resource entitled "[Pharmacists Virtual Communication Toolkit: Engaging in Effective Conversations about Opioids](#)." This is a useful toolkit for discussions about the appropriate use of opioid medications with patients.

### Section 56 Exemption

As indicated in the September 20, 2019 edition of MicroSCOPE, the section 56(1) class exemption for prescribing methadone expired on September 30, 2019. The College is engaged in discussions with Health Canada to review and renew the exemption.

## Bridging Pathway Deadline for Pharmacy Technician Candidates is Noon on December 24, 2019

The final deadline for all registration requirements and fees is December 31, 2019. However, **the College office will be closed at noon on December 24 and will reopen on January 2, 2020.** Please keep these dates in mind to ensure there is adequate time to meet all requirements.

Over the next few weeks, pharmacy technician candidates pursuing registration through the bridging pathway must complete the Structured Practical Skills Assessment (SPSA) program through Saskatchewan Polytechnic far enough in advance of the December 31, 2019 registration deadline to allow time to sit the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) Jurisprudence Exam. This means that the PEBC Qualifying Exam, SPSA, Jurisprudence Exam and registration application all must be completed prior to this date. The last intake for the SPSA course was [September 16, 2019](#).

As SCPP is only able to offer a limited number of Jurisprudence Exam appointments per week, it is highly recommended that those who currently can

book an appointment for the Regina in-person exam do so as soon as possible.

It is anticipated that exam appointments for the remainder of the year will fill up quickly. The final sitting of the Jurisprudence Examination is scheduled for **December 20, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.** Candidates will want to give adequate time to prepare for this exam (with possible rewrites) to meet the December 2019 deadline, please refer to the SCPP [Jurisprudence Exam Policy](#).

Candidates who are unable to obtain a Jurisprudence Exam appointment due to all 2019 exam sittings being booked, can submit an appeal to Council requesting an extension to the December 31, 2019 deadline to allow them to write the Jurisprudence Exam in January 2020. The deadline to submit all appeals is **November 15, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.**

Candidates requiring an appeal or additional information are asked to contact Peleshia Dubidad at 306-584-2292 or [SCPPRegistration.PHARMTECH@saskpharm.ca](mailto:SCPPRegistration.PHARMTECH@saskpharm.ca).

## DPEBB Influenza Immunization Program Update

The official starting date of the Ministry of Health's Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) 2019-2020 Seasonal Influenza Immunization Program was October 21, 2019 and will end on March 31, 2020.

To ensure pharmacy professionals have the needed information, the DPEBB publishes an update to the Influenza Immunization Program describing billing and answers to frequently asked questions. To read, click [here](#).

## Bylaw Updates: Section 10, Part K

In collaboration with S CPP's stakeholders, and specifically with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS), section 10 of Part K of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) regulatory bylaws, regarding prescribing of drugs, has been updated. Pharmacists are now authorized to prescribe the following, only in extraordinary circumstances as determined by the College:

- 1) a supply of a drug which exceeds the lesser of the amount last prescribed by a practitioner or 100 days' supply of that drug, without the express authority of a practitioner;
- 2) a drug when the most previous prescription for that drug was issued by a licensed pharmacist; or
- 3) a drug where no active relationship exists between a practitioner and the patient.

This new prescribing authority must be authorized by the Registrar in conjunction with the regulatory body of the practitioner in question and only when the Registrar has determined that extraordinary circumstances exist, which demonstrate that it is in the public interest.

### Example

For example, a physician or Nurse Practitioner becomes ill and closes their practice either permanently or temporarily and leaves a community of patients with limited or reduced access to a primary prescriber. This would be an example whereby the exemption in consultation with S CPP's colleagues could be enacted. Based on a collaborative discussion and plan to ensure access, appropriate timelines would be established, and communication provided to pharmacists, appropriate physicians and/or Nurse Practitioners in the surrounding area, similarly to the recent Section 56 Exemption. The College believes that patients benefit from collaboration with the College's partners to ensure there is a concerted plan.

Requests for prescribing exemptions may come to the S CPP Registrar from another regulatory body with justification supporting the request, or from pharmacists expressing reasonable grounds to believe an exemption would apply. The S CPP Registrar will determine whether to collaborate with the Registrar of the regulatory body of the authorized practitioner to whom the extenuating circumstances apply or if there are alternative options that can be considered.

These regulatory bylaw changes are being made to ensure optimal patient care, interdisciplinary collaboration with CPSS, Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association, and the health and safety of the public.

## Welcome to Natalie and David

### Natalie Rediger, Pharmacy Policy and Practice Consultant

Natalie joined S CPP on September 23, 2019, for a two-year term position. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BSP) from the University of Saskatchewan. Natalie has worked in rural and urban community pharmacies in Saskatchewan and was also a staff pharmacist in an Ottawa pharmacy. She is now happy to be back in her home province.



### David Chou, Pharmacy Policy and Practice Consultant

David started with the College on November 4, 2019. He graduated from the BSP program at the University of Saskatchewan and most recently was the associate-owner of a pharmacy in Regina where he successfully piloted a large-scale integration of long-term care services. David's experience and passion for improving policies and best practices in the pharmacy industry will go a long way to helping the College achieve its goals.



# Questionable Advertising Materials

Several recent advertising materials from various pharmacies has brought the College's attention to the matter of advertising practices that are prevalent and possibly inappropriate. Advertising for pharmacy services is administered through the authority of *The Pharmacy and Pharmacy Disciplines Act* and the SCPP Regulatory Bylaws. An abridged version of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) regulatory advertising bylaws is presented below with the areas of concern underlined. The complete version can be viewed directly from the bylaws posted on SCPP website.

## PART H – CODE OF ETHICS

Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals Code of Ethics:

(8) A member shall be governed in advertising practices by highly professional integrity.

## PART J – CONDITIONS OF SALE FOR DRUGS AND RELATED REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACISTS, PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND PHARMACIES

Advertising

17(1)

(2) *General Prohibition.* No pharmacist, pharmacy technician, or any firm, corporation, partnership, organization, or clinic operating a pharmacy, shall publish, display, distribute, or use or cause or permit, directly or indirectly, the publication, display, distribution or use of any advertisement, announcement or information related to professional services, which:

- (a) as a result of its content or method or frequency of dissemination, may be reasonably regarded as likely to demean the integrity or dignity of the profession or bring the profession into disrepute;
- (b) includes information that:
  - (i) is false, misleading, fraudulent, deceptive, ambiguous or confusing or likely to mislead or deceive the public because, in context, it makes only partial disclosure of relevant facts;
  - (ii) is not relevant to the public's ability to make an informed choice, or is not verifiable by facts or can only be verified by a person's personal feelings, beliefs, opinions or interpretations;
- (c) is likely to create expectations of favourable results or to appeal to the public's fears; or
- (d) makes any reference to the prices, fees or services of any other member or pharmacy or which would be reasonably regarded as making such reference.

(3) *Signs.* No licensed pharmacist, licensed pharmacy technician, or any proprietor, firm, corporation, partnership, organization, or clinic operating a pharmacy shall have or display or cause to be displayed a sign or signs internal or external to the place of business advertising professional services which:

- (a) are in a size and/or number not reasonably necessary to inform the public or provide the public with the ability to make an informed choice; or
- (b) are flamboyant, grandiose, sensational or otherwise demeaning to the integrity of the profession and which are not reasonably necessary to inform the public or to provide the public with the ability to make an informed choice.

The College has observed that certain terminologies used in advertising materials may be viewed as an advertising bylaw violation by our regulatory processes and have a strong potential of triggering a complaint for formal investigation. These advertising terminologies have been observed to include:



### Example 1: "Free Flu Shots"

or "Free Compliance Packaging" or "Free Injection Services"

There is a concern that "free" implies that some flu injections are "not free" and this can be misleading.

### Example 2: "Low Dispensing Fees"

or "Low Prices on Prescriptions" or "Save Time and Money" or "Extra Savings" or "Discounted Prices" or "Lowest Fees"

By focusing on "price," the important role that pharmacists play in patient care is undermined.

### Example 3: "Have your prescriptions filled in minutes"

or "Tired of Waiting?" or "Save Time" or "Quick and Easy Transfers" or "Quick and Easy Refills" or "Fast and Convenient Flu Shots" or "Transfer and Save"

Again, the focus on time minimizes the important patient care that pharmacists are expected to fulfill. It ignores the greater patient care goals that SCPP is trying to achieve of increasing patient care.

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**Example 4: “Transfer and get points, rewards, gift cards or gifts” or “Switch and get points, rewards, gift cards or gifts”**

Some of the advertisements portray an unprofessional approach to sensitive medical/health conditions that patients face as opposed to portraying highly professional and trusted members of the health care team. These ads undercut the ability to reinforce with other health providers that the pharmacist plays an integral role in good patient care.

The College would like to bring to light the above advertising concerns as experienced through its dealing with phone calls of concern to the College and subsequent letters of concern to members, which can result in complaint investigations if not resolved, in hopes to encourage use of advertisements that are more in line with the advertising bylaws and the member’s code of ethics and most importantly, do not diminish the public’s esteem for the profession.

## Notes from the Field

### Unauthorized Personnel in the Dispensary Reminder

With the new school year well underway, some members may be considering inviting high school students thinking of a career in pharmacy into the dispensary to shadow them for a time. While the College understands this practice may be of benefit to the young person trying to make a career choice, members must remember their obligation to the privacy of the patient.

In the October 2018 edition of SCOPe, the College printed the reminder that members have undergone extensive training regarding privacy and confidentiality issues arising from *The Health Information Protection Act (HIPA)*. For the full article, please click [here](#).

### Directors’ Responsibilities

SCPP has had several complaint investigations where the member is not aware of their responsibilities as a “Director” of the proprietor’s corporation as the pharmacy manager.

A pharmacy manager is more than an employee of a corporation. He or she has fiduciary and other obligations as outlined in [Directors’ Duties](#), which can be found in the SCPP reference manual. The document is provided to all pharmacy managers by SCPP.

Additionally, pharmacy managers should be aware of the article [Responsibility of a Pharmacy Manager during Permit Renewal](#), which can be found on page 17 of the October 2018 edition of the SCOPe newsletter.

### Text Message Reminder for Refills Service

**Q:** Is it acceptable to offer text message reminders for refills as a pharmacy service?

**A:** This information is covered in the Privacy Officer Certification/Recertification 2019 training, provided by the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP). The program has been developed to ensure privacy officers understand their obligations and responsibilities under the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA)* and *The Health Information Protection Act (HIPA)*.

After completing the Mandatory Privacy Officer Update, privacy officers can complete a privacy impact assessment to determine if privacy is being violated. A privacy impact assessment looks at what the personal health information is, how it is collected, how it will be used, and consent. The College reminds members to be cautious with identified information. The privacy officer will need to consider risk and balance it with the realities of new ways of communicating.

### Prescribing Restrictions and Requirements

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS) lists their physician members with prescribing restrictions on their website. Should SCPP’s members need to review this information, they can visit the CPSS Physicians with Prescribing Restrictions, which can be found under “Prescription Review Program” or [here](#).

# Call for SCPP Award Nominations

## Deadline for SCPP Award Nominations – January 31, 2020

The SCPP Awards and Honours Committee is calling for nominations for their annual awards. These will be presented to members who have made a significant contribution to the pharmacy profession and/or community. Early submissions are appreciated.

You can nominate either your colleague(s) or yourself for any of the awards.

### MEMBER AWARDS

#### Presidential Citation

The Presidential Citation recognizes an SCPP member who has made special contributions to pharmacy and/or one outstanding contribution or a specific achievement that has enhanced the profession of pharmacy.

#### Member Emeritus Status (MESCPP)

Attention Retired SCPP Member(s): Have you previously been a practising or non-practising member of SCPP in good standing for at least 25 years? If so, you may be eligible to apply for the designation 'Member Emeritus Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals' or 'MESCPP'.

Any member on the Retired Register may be designated as a 'Member Emeritus' of the College and may use the designation 'Member Emeritus Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals' or 'MESCPP' if he can declare the following:

- has been a practising or non-practising member continually in good standing with the SCPP or other regulatory body for pharmacists for at least 25 years
- has not been found guilty of professional misconduct or professional incompetence
- understands that his name must remain on the Retired Register of SCPP
- has asked that his designation be confirmed by the Awards Committee of SCPP

NOTE: Where a member is ineligible pursuant to clause (b) herein, Council may, upon receipt of a written request giving reasons, determine that the member is eligible to be designated as a "Member Emeritus."

#### Emerald Achievement Award

The Emerald Achievement Award will go to a practising SCPP member in good standing for their dedication and service. The recipient must have been active in our profession for at least 35 years.

#### Honorary Life Member Award

An Honorary Life Member Award will be presented to recognize a member of SCPP for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or SCPP, beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations. An Honorary Life Member Award may be granted in recognition of:

- A distinguished record of professional service to the community;
- And/or outstanding contribution to SCPP;
- And/or a distinguished record of service to SCPP;
- And/or specific achievements that enhanced the profession;
- And/or long-term service to the profession with a distinguished record.

Honorary Life Members will have their annual personal membership fees waived but are responsible for all other conditions of membership.

### NON-MEMBER AWARDS

#### SCPP Award of Merit

Available to the general public, this award recognizes any person, group or organization, who is not a member of the College, and who through his active participation has promoted SCPP and/or the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan. The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial, or national level.

#### Honorary Member Award

Available to the general public, this award recognizes any person for outstanding contributions to the profession and/or SCPP beyond the normal call of professional or voluntary obligations.

An Honorary Member award may be granted in recognition of:

- An outstanding single contribution to SCPP;
- And/or a distinguished record of service to SCPP;
- And/or a single specific achievement that enhanced the profession;
- And/or through long-term service to the profession with a distinguished record.

The nominee must have made a special contribution to SCPP either on a local, provincial, or national level.

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## OTHER AWARDS

### Centennial Pharmacy Award

In 2011, SCPP celebrated its Centennial Anniversary. At that time, we invited all pharmacies celebrating their Centennial Anniversary in 2011 and those pharmacies in operation for more than 100 years to celebrate this milestone alongside the College by introducing a new award to recognize the great accomplishment.

SCPP would like to continue to recognize this achievement of operating as a pharmacy for 100 years by making the Centennial Pharmacy Award an annual award which will be given to those pharmacies who can document their roots back 100 years. In each coming year, SCPP will be looking for all Saskatchewan pharmacies that have been in continuous operation by the same or different owners for 100 years or more.

If your pharmacy is celebrating its centennial year, and your pharmacy's history can be traced back more than 100 years, the College would like to hear from you and asks that you

forward an outline of your pharmacy's history, including ownership and key dates and changes. The College would also like to know of any outreach and involvement in your community that your pharmacy has done and/or continues to do.

### Safety Excellence Award

SCPP Safety Excellence Awards may be presented to recognize a member of SCPP, or a group/organization that the member belongs, who has made a special contribution to pharmacy in the area of increasing safety with one outstanding contribution or a series of achievements that has enhanced patient or medication safety.

The Safety Excellence Award recognizes a special contribution that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- a) Demonstrates enhanced patient/medication safety
- b) Demonstrates safer medication practices
- c) Demonstrates a reduction in risk to patients
- d) Demonstrates innovation in continuous quality improvement in pharmacy practice

## How to Nominate

Members are invited to nominate your colleague(s) and/or yourself for any of these awards. All nominations must be accompanied by a summary of the qualifications consistent with the terms of reference. For a list of who has received an award in the past, please visit [Member Awards](#) on the SCPP website under About Us.

### Complete List of Awards and Criteria

Please [click here](#) for a complete list of awards and criteria, including nomination/application forms, which follow the Terms of Reference for each award. Forms may also be requested from the SCPP office.

### Deadline

While the deadline for receipt of nominations for an SCPP award is January 31, 2020, the College is encouraging early submissions. In all cases, the final selection must be approved by the SCPP Council, following recommendation from the Awards and Honours Committee.

SCPP Award  
nominations  
Deadline!

January 31, 2020

SCPP Awards and  
Honours Committee  
100 – 1964 Park Street  
Regina, SK S4P 4K8  
Fax: 306-584-9695  
Email: [info@saskpharm.ca](mailto:info@saskpharm.ca)

# COMPASS Update

## PPRs to become QIRs

Over the last year, the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) has been preparing for a change from the Professional Practice Reviews (PPRs) process to Quality Improvement Reviews (QIRs).

Starting soon, Quality Improvement Reviews (QIRs) will be implemented to replace Professional Practice Reviews (PPRs). PPRs were performed in all pharmacies approximately every three years with a focus on ensuring compliance with regulatory and practice requirements. The new QIR will occur more often, about every 18 months to two years. The new QIRs will still include some of the PRP processes, but the focus will be on ensuring safety by coaching and assisting pharmacies in their quality improvement efforts to help achieve the desired culture of safety within Saskatchewan pharmacies.

In addition to being conducted more often, the QIRs will be shorter in length. Rather than 3-4 hours, it is expected they will take approximately 1-1½ hours. The new QIR process will include the pharmacy manager completing a pharmacy self-assessment prior to the review, as well providing the field officer with 5-10 examples of medication incidents to be reviewed using the Medication Safety Culture Indicator Matrix (MedSCIM) tool. During the QIRs, other safety and practice related topics will be reviewed to assist the pharmacy staff in identifying and resolving potential safety-related issues.

One other change is that the QIRs will be conducted virtually via an internet application instead of in person. More information will be provided to pharmacy managers as the reviews get underway.

If pharmacy managers or quality improvement coordinators have any questions regarding the new QIR process, please contact the SCPP office.

## Safety Attitudes Questionnaire Results

During November 2018, pharmacy managers, pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians were asked to participate in the SAQ or Safety Attitudes Questionnaire that was created and reviewed by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) Canada.

There were 1,262 surveys distributed with 230 responses (18.2% response rate). The survey explored six different domains that influence safety culture. The domains were: Teamwork, Safety Culture, Job Satisfaction, Stress Recognition, Perception of Management and Working

Conditions. The results were collated based on work environment (corporate, banner and independent) and years of experience. ISMP prepared and interpreted the responses to the questionnaire. A summary of some of their findings is provided below.

**Safety Culture** was the domain that scored highest amongst respondents. The respondents indicated that medication incidents are handled appropriately and they themselves would feel safe as a patient at their pharmacy. As well, staff generally feel confident in the standards and process that are in place to maintain patient safety. Even though this domain scored high, the scoring of one question indicated that the shift from a blame-focused to a system-oriented safety culture is still ongoing.

**Teamwork** domain was also scored high by respondents. The responses reflected pharmacy staff that work in independently owned pharmacies scored the domain higher than their counterparts in banner and corporate pharmacies. Also, respondents that have less than five years of experience scored this domain relatively lower on average than those with more than five years of experience.

**Perception of Management** assesses how respondents feel patient safety is being maintained by management. Generally, respondents felt that pharmacy management supports their daily efforts and does not knowingly compromise patient safety. When asked if staffing levels were sufficient enough to accommodate the number of patients, respondents from banner and corporate pharmacies scored lower than from independently owned pharmacies. When stratified according to years of experience, all categories scored lower in terms of how well they perceived the pharmacy was staffed. Based on survey responses, it seems that insufficient staffing levels is a safety concern for all pharmacy professionals, particularly at corporate and banner pharmacy locations.

The **Job Satisfaction and Stress Recognition** domain scored lower compared to other domains irrespective of years of work experience or type of pharmacy. Respondents generally agree they like their jobs and their respective pharmacy is a good place to work but scoring related to pharmacy morale was divided. Respondents from independently owned pharmacies scored higher with respect to pharmacy morale than respondents from banner or corporate pharmacies. Also, results showed that pharmacy professionals are very adept at recognizing different forms of stress and the risk it presents to patient safety. Generally, all respondents also recognized their work

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performance becomes impaired when they are fatigued or when their workload is excessive leading to a potential likelihood of more errors.

The **Working Conditions** domain was the lowest scoring amongst respondents. Although most respondents felt strongly there were enough information resources available to support their clinical decision making, the integration and supervision of new staff seemed to be an issue. This was seen particularly with corporate pharmacy professionals. When stratified according to work experience, a similar trend existed, and it seems that both recent graduates and experience professionals perceived there was much to be desired with the training, supervision and support for new staff.

Overall, based on the responses of the first administration of the SAQ in Saskatchewan, pharmacy professionals generally have a positive view of the current safety culture,

particularly as it relates to Teamwork and Safety Culture. There seems to be a general consensus that medication incidents are being handled appropriately when they occur by a well-coordinated pharmacy team. Some of the challenges seemed to be around the perceptions of pharmacy morale, adequate staffing to match the number of patients, improved training and supervision of new pharmacy personnel, and attempts to make recent graduates feel their input is better received.

It is SCPP's intent to administer the SAQ on a regular basis to track improvements in the safety culture and to identify the impact that each domain has on the safety culture in Saskatchewan. The College would like to thank all the pharmacy professionals that participated in the first administration of the SAQ as their involvement was greatly appreciated. A summary of the results of the SAQ can be found below and on the SCPP website [here](#). The full report of the SAQ can be found [here](#).

## An Assessment of Safety Culture in Saskatchewan Community Pharmacy Practice

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### Objectives

- The Safety Attitudes Questionnaire (SAQ) is a validated instrument that explores the safety culture maturity within work environments, particularly in healthcare.<sup>1,2,3</sup> The questions are divided into 6 domains that influence safety culture: Teamwork, Safety Culture, Job Satisfaction, Stress Recognition, Perception of Management and Working Conditions.<sup>1,2,3</sup>
- The objective of this study was to explore the current perceptions and attitudes on patient safety culture in community practice by Saskatchewan pharmacy professionals.

### Methodology

- We administered a 40-item online questionnaire, which was adapted from the SAQ, for a 4-week period between November 5, 2018 and December 3, 2018, to a total of 1262 registered pharmacy professionals (1182 pharmacists and 80 pharmacy technicians) in Saskatchewan to assess their current attitudes and perceptions on safety culture, as well as the overall safety culture climate.
- Scores were obtained for each item utilizing a 5-point Likert Scale (1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree).
- We conducted descriptive statistics and qualitative thematic analysis, accordingly, on the responses collected.

### Results

- We collected 230 responses (18.2% response rate) from 210 pharmacists (17.8% response rate) and 20 pharmacy technicians (25% response rate) (Table 1).
- We stratified the six domains of safety culture in the SAQ by:
  - Years of work experience of the respondent (Table 2); and
  - Type of pharmacy operated in by the respondent (Table 3).

TABLE 1. Demographic information (N is the total number and % is the percentage)

Characteristics	Number of Respondents (n=230)	%
<b>Position</b>		
Pharmacist (manager/owner)	74	32.17%
Pharmacist (staff)	136	59.13%
Pharmacy Technician	20	8.7%
<b>Total Number of Years Working in Community Pharmacy</b>		
0-5 years	68	29.57%
6-10 years	42	18.26%
11-20 years	59	25.65%
20+ years	61	26.52%
<b>Type of Pharmacy*</b>		
Corporate	105	45.65%
Banner	55	23.91%
Independently owned	70	30.43%
<b>Approximate Number of Prescriptions Dispensed Weekly</b>		
700 or fewer (per week)	48	20.87%
701 to 1500 (per week)	96	41.74%
1501 to 3000 (per week)	63	27.39%
3001 to 6000 (per week)	18	7.83%
6001 to 12000 (per week)	5	2.17%
12001 or more (per week)	0	0.00%

### SAFETY CULTURE DOMAINS

SAFETY CULTURE DOMAINS	0-5 Years	6-10 Years	11-20 Years	20+ Years	Weighted Average
<b>TEAMWORK</b>	4.06	4.28	4.37	4.34	4.26
My input is well received in this pharmacy.	4.10	4.50	4.39	4.41	4.34
In this pharmacy, it is difficult to speak up if I perceive a problem with patient care. <sup>†</sup>	3.53	4.10	4.16	3.98	3.92
Disagreements in this pharmacy are resolved appropriately (i.e., not who is right but what is best for the patient).	4.14	4.27	4.38	4.40	4.29
I have the support I need from others in this pharmacy to care for patients.	4.12	4.36	4.45	4.35	4.31
I would feel safe being treated here as a patient.	4.33	4.31	4.50	4.44	4.40
I am encouraged by others in this pharmacy to report any patient safety concerns I may have.	4.11	4.26	4.34	4.44	4.28
<b>SAFETY CULTURE</b>	4.17	4.30	4.40	4.41	4.32
I would feel safe being treated here as a patient.	4.59	4.70	4.74	4.73	4.71
Medication errors are handled appropriately in this pharmacy.	4.50	4.55	4.63	4.77	4.61
I know the proper channels to direct questions regarding patient safety in this pharmacy.	4.53	4.55	4.61	4.71	4.60
I receive appropriate feedback about my performance.	3.70	3.95	3.89	3.81	3.82
In this pharmacy, it is difficult to discuss errors. <sup>†</sup>	3.83	3.73	4.30	4.20	4.02
I am encouraged by others in this pharmacy to report any patient safety concerns I may have.	4.14	4.38	4.41	4.28	4.20
The culture in this pharmacy makes it easy to learn from the errors of others.	3.90	4.23	4.20	4.35	4.16

### JOB SATISFACTION

JOB SATISFACTION	0-5 Years	6-10 Years	11-20 Years	20+ Years	Weighted Average
I like my job.	3.97	3.92	4.08	3.95	3.98
Working here is like being part of a large family.	4.02	4.05	4.11	4.04	4.05
This pharmacy is a good place to work.	3.87	3.78	3.95	3.78	3.85
I am proud to work in this pharmacy.	4.11	4.05	4.18	4.13	4.12
Morale in this pharmacy is high.	4.13	4.15	4.38	4.16	4.21

### STRESS RECOGNITION

STRESS RECOGNITION	0-5 Years	6-10 Years	11-20 Years	20+ Years	Weighted Average
When my workload becomes excessive, my performance is impaired.	4.18	4.12	4.23	4.24	4.20
I am less effective at work when fatigued.	4.05	4.03	4.15	4.30	4.13
I am more likely to make errors in tense or hostile situations.	4.17	4.21	4.32	4.20	4.23
Fatigue impairs my performance in trying situations.	4.31	4.18	4.27	4.20	4.25

### PERCEPTION OF MANAGEMENT

PERCEPTION OF MANAGEMENT	0-5 Years	6-10 Years	11-20 Years	20+ Years	Weighted Average
Management in this pharmacy supports my daily efforts.	3.96	3.87	4.06	3.95	3.97
Pharmacy management doesn't knowingly compromise patient safety.	3.89	4.03	4.15	4.07	4.03
I get adequate, timely information about events that might affect my work, from pharmacy management.	4.58	4.21	4.54	4.22	4.40
The staffing levels in this pharmacy are sufficient to handle the number of patients.	3.68	3.87	3.96	3.79	3.82

### WORKING CONDITIONS

WORKING CONDITIONS	0-5 Years	6-10 Years	11-20 Years	20+ Years	Weighted Average
This pharmacy does a good job of training new personnel.	3.80	3.81	3.61	3.78	3.75
All the necessary information for therapeutic decisions is routinely available to me.	3.45	3.36	3.30	3.54	3.42
Trainees in this pharmacy are adequately supervised.	4.27	4.51	4.37	4.26	4.34
Problem personnel are dealt with constructively by our pharmacy management.	3.82	3.84	3.56	3.88	3.78

TABLE 2. Safety Culture Domain Mean Scores with Respect to Respondent's Total Number of Years of Work Experience in Community Pharmacy Practice

SAFETY CULTURE DOMAINS	0-5 Years	6-10 Years	11-20 Years	20+ Years	Weighted Average
<b>TEAMWORK</b>	4.06	4.28	4.37	4.34	4.26
My input is well received in this pharmacy.	4.10	4.50	4.39	4.41	4.34
In this pharmacy, it is difficult to speak up if I perceive a problem with patient care. <sup>†</sup>	3.53	4.10	4.16	3.98	3.92
Disagreements in this pharmacy are resolved appropriately (i.e., not who is right but what is best for the patient).	4.14	4.27	4.38	4.40	4.29
I have the support I need from others in this pharmacy to care for patients.	4.12	4.36	4.45	4.35	4.31
I would feel safe being treated here as a patient.	4.33	4.31	4.50	4.44	4.40
I am encouraged by others in this pharmacy to report any patient safety concerns I may have.	4.11	4.26	4.34	4.44	4.28
<b>SAFETY CULTURE</b>	4.17	4.30	4.40	4.41	4.32
I would feel safe being treated here as a patient.	4.59	4.70	4.74	4.73	4.71
Medication errors are handled appropriately in this pharmacy.	4.50	4.55	4.63	4.77	4.61
I know the proper channels to direct questions regarding patient safety in this pharmacy.	4.53	4.55	4.61	4.71	4.60
I receive appropriate feedback about my performance.	3.70	3.95	3.89	3.81	3.82
In this pharmacy, it is difficult to discuss errors. <sup>†</sup>	3.83	3.73	4.30	4.20	4.02
I am encouraged by others in this pharmacy to report any patient safety concerns I may have.	4.14	4.38	4.41	4.28	4.20
The culture in this pharmacy makes it easy to learn from the errors of others.	3.90	4.23	4.20	4.35	4.16
<b>JOB SATISFACTION</b>	3.97	3.92	4.08	3.95	3.98
I like my job.	4.02	4.05	4.11	4.04	4.05
Working here is like being part of a large family.	3.87	3.78	3.95	3.78	3.85
This pharmacy is a good place to work.	4.11	4.05	4.18	4.13	4.12
I am proud to work in this pharmacy.	4.13	4.15	4.38	4.16	4.21
Morale in this pharmacy is high.	3.70	3.58	3.79	3.65	3.67
<b>STRESS RECOGNITION</b>	4.18	4.12	4.23	4.24	4.20
When my workload becomes excessive, my performance is impaired.	4.05	4.03	4.15	4.30	4.13
I am less effective at work when fatigued.	4.17	4.21	4.32	4.20	4.23
I am more likely to make errors in tense or hostile situations.	4.31	4.18	4.27	4.20	4.25
Fatigue impairs my performance in trying situations.	4.19	4.05	4.19	4.24	4.18
<b>PERCEPTION OF MANAGEMENT</b>	3.96	3.87	4.06	3.95	3.97
Management in this pharmacy supports my daily efforts.	3.89	4.03	4.15	4.07	4.03
Pharmacy management doesn't knowingly compromise patient safety.	4.58	4.21	4.54	4.22	4.40
I get adequate, timely information about events that might affect my work, from pharmacy management.	3.68	3.87	3.96	3.79	3.82
The staffing levels in this pharmacy are sufficient to handle the number of patients.	3.68	3.35	3.59	3.73	3.61
<b>WORKING CONDITIONS</b>	3.80	3.81	3.61	3.78	3.75
This pharmacy does a good job of training new personnel.	3.45	3.36	3.30	3.54	3.42
All the necessary information for therapeutic decisions is routinely available to me.	4.27	4.51	4.37	4.26	4.34
Trainees in this pharmacy are adequately supervised.	3.82	3.84	3.56	3.88	3.78
Problem personnel are dealt with constructively by our pharmacy management.	3.65	3.51	3.20	3.44	3.45

TABLE 3. Safety Culture Domain Mean Scores with Respect to the Respondent's Pharmacy Workplace Type

SAFETY CULTURE DOMAINS	Banner	Corporate	Independently Owned	Weighted Average
<b>TEAMWORK</b>	4.25	4.12	4.53	4.26
My input is well received in this pharmacy.	4.33	4.15	4.60	4.34
In this pharmacy, it is difficult to speak up if I perceive a problem with patient care. <sup>†</sup>	3.98	3.78	4.33	3.92
Disagreements in this pharmacy are resolved appropriately (i.e., not who is right but what is best for the patient).	4.26	4.15	4.55	4.29
I have the support I need from others in this pharmacy to care for patients.	4.41	4.09	4.60	4.31
I would feel safe being treated here as a patient.	4.44	4.26	4.59	4.40
I am encouraged by others in this pharmacy to report any patient safety concerns I may have.	4.09	4.24	4.52	4.28
<b>SAFETY CULTURE</b>	4.24	4.23	4.48	4.32
I would feel safe being treated here as a patient.	4.69	4.64	4.86	4.71
Medication errors are handled appropriately in this pharmacy.	4.60	4.56	4.71	4.61
I know the proper channels to direct questions regarding patient safety in this pharmacy.	4.48	4.59	4.73	4.60
I receive appropriate feedback about my performance.	3.44	3.87	4.09	3.82
In this pharmacy, it is difficult to discuss errors. <sup>†</sup>	4.02	3.85	4.00	4.02
I am encouraged by others in this pharmacy to report any patient safety concerns I may have.	4.20	4.20	4.52	4.29
The culture in this pharmacy makes it easy to learn from the errors of others.	4.25	3.92	4.47	4.16
<b>JOB SATISFACTION</b>	3.94	3.68	4.50	3.98
I like my job.	4.04	3.79	4.48	4.05
Working here is like being part of a large family.	3.82	3.58	4.30	3.85
This pharmacy is a good place to work.	4.14	3.76	4.89	4.12
I am proud to work in this pharmacy.	4.22	3.87	4.74	4.21
Morale in this pharmacy is high.	3.47	3.40	4.24	3.67
<b>STRESS RECOGNITION</b>	4.23	4.35	3.84	4.20
When my workload becomes excessive, my performance is impaired.	4.24	4.30	3.72	4.13
I am less effective at work when fatigued.	4.28	4.33	4.00	4.23
I am more likely to make errors in tense or hostile situations.	4.22	4.46	3.92	4.25
Fatigue impairs my performance in trying situations.	4.16	4.38	3.81	4.18
<b>PERCEPTION OF MANAGEMENT</b>	3.88	3.75	4.39	3.97
Management in this pharmacy supports my daily efforts.	4.06	3.73	4.48	4.03
Pharmacy management doesn't knowingly compromise patient safety.	4.55	4.29	4.49	4.40
I get adequate, timely information about events that might affect my work, from pharmacy management.	3.60	3.62	4.35	3.82
The staffing levels in this pharmacy are sufficient to handle the number of patients.	3.37	3.34	4.25	3.61
<b>WORKING CONDITIONS</b>	3.82	3.51	4.11	3.75
This pharmacy does a good job of training new personnel.	3.44	3.14	3.89	3.42
All the necessary information for therapeutic decisions is routinely available to me.	4.39	4.18	4.57	4.34
Trainees in this pharmacy are adequately supervised.	3.78	3.56	4.14	3.78
Problem personnel are dealt with constructively by our pharmacy management.	3.65	3.15	3.85	3.45

### Conclusion

- Pharmacy professionals generally have a positive view of the current safety culture. Domains such as Teamwork and Safety Culture were highly scored by pharmacy professionals and there is a general consensus that medication errors are handled appropriately when they occur by a well-coordinated pharmacy team.
- Pharmacy morale tends to differ amongst respondents from different types of pharmacies. Although respondents trust management and believe that patient safety is never knowingly or purposely compromised, there is a need for management to address staffing levels in the pharmacy team to match the number of patients in order to maintain patient safety, as well as continued efforts to train and supervise new pharmacy personnel.
- New or recent pharmacy graduates felt their input could be better received, especially in terms of patient care, and may perhaps benefit from a comprehensive pharmacy orientation/team-building program.
- As medication use continues to rise across Canada, creating and maintaining a robust safety culture will establish a strong precedent for current and future generations of pharmacy professionals to maintain and uphold patient safety.

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- Acknowledgements:** The authors would like to acknowledge the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals for its support and assistance in disseminating the SAQ in Saskatchewan, and to Ricardo Plaza Riega, MEd, Student, Industrial Engineering, University of Toronto, for his assistance in conducting the SAQ data analysis. His participation and contribution into pharmacy professionals in Saskatchewan to the SAQ was greatly appreciated by the authors.
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[Click here to download a pdf of this summary.](#)

## MySaskHealthRecord

MySaskHealthRecord is a secure website that enables Saskatchewan citizens to quickly and easily access their personal health information. Those who sign up will be able to access their information such as laboratory test results, medical imaging reports, and clinical visit history from across the province. All personal information in MySaskHealthRecord is stored securely and can only be accessed through a highly secure, personalized login.

To sign up for MySaskHealthRecord, residents must:

- be a Saskatchewan resident 18 years of age or older; AND
- have an active Saskatchewan health card; AND
- have a valid Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) driver's licence or SGI photo ID card.

For additional information from the Saskatchewan provincial government, please review the links below.

[MySaskHealthRecord - Reference Guide](#)

[MySaskHealthRecord - Provider Tips to Consider](#)

[MySaskHealthRecord - Health Care Provider FAQs](#)

## Ask “What Matters to You?” When It Matters Most

*Article segment written by Michael Barry and reprinted from the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.*

When patients make decisions about testing or treatment when there is more than one medically reasonable option, they and the people who care about them must live with the consequences of their choices. In addition to informing them about the possible outcomes of the options,

clinicians should find out what matters to them, their values and preferences, *in the context of the decision*. The right decision, whoever makes it, should be consistent with those values and preferences.

To read the full article, including when preventing death may not be what matters most, click on the Institute's September 17, 2019 blog [here](#).

## SCPP Members Facebook Group

When there is something the College would like to get out quickly, including drug recalls, drug schedule changes, important notices, etc. the SCPP Members Facebook group is one of the quickest avenues to keeping members informed. The group is available to any SCPP member who has an active member number and is a Facebook user.

Because the Facebook Group has been set up as a “secret” group, it is not viewable by non-members or even findable. This makes it a more secure platform to convey information and for members to ask questions. Members are also invited to post items and questions they think will benefit the community.

### How to Join

Email [info@saskpharm.ca](mailto:info@saskpharm.ca) with “Join SCPP Members Group” in the subject line. Please include a first and last name, licence number and the *email address associated with your Facebook account* in the body of the email. An invitation to join the group will be sent via Facebook. Participants can leave the group at any time.



# Membership Summary July 1, 2019

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>PHARMACISTS</b>							
Practising							
Community	965	969	1030	1064	1086	1129	1115
Hospital	245	250	268	275	286	304	325
Out-of-Province	35	21	39	45	46	48	49
Other	119	176	129	139	140	140	158
Conditional Practising	<u>54</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>63</u>
Total Practising	1418	1479	1521	1579	1629	1670	1710
Non-Practising	44	48	45	48	49	53	55
Associate	50	48	47	43	41	37	29
Retired	91	99	101	96	99	103	89
Suspended							2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1603</b>	<b>1674</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>1766</b>	<b>1818</b>	<b>1863</b>	<b>1885</b>
Terminations	69	65	71	79	89	84	110
<b>PHARMACY TECHNICIANS</b>							
Practising							
Community	–	–	–	9	43	77	93
Hospital	–	–	–	24	85	147	180
Other	–	–	–	0	3	5	11
Out-of-Province	–	–	–	–	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Total Practising	–	–	–	33	138	234	290
Non Practising	–	–	–	–	2	1	5
<b>Total</b>	–	–	–	<b>33</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>295</b>
Terminations	–	–	–	–	13	19	19

## Summary

As of July 1, 2019, there were 1,885 pharmacist members on the register, compared to 1,863 members in July 2018. This year's total consists of: 1,710 practising pharmacist members, 55 non-practising pharmacist members, 29 associate pharmacist members and 89 retired pharmacist members. As well, there were 295 pharmacy technicians on the register, compared to 235 in July 2018.

## Outside Saskatchewan Pharmacist Candidates

Between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019 there were 23 candidates from outside of Saskatchewan who registered. There were 13 International Pharmacy Graduates (IPGs) who registered as practising members during that time.

## University of Saskatchewan BSP Graduates

There were 85 graduates from the 2019 BSP class at the University of Saskatchewan. From the group of 85 graduates, 50 became registered initially as Conditional Practising Members on or before July 1.

## Welcome

SCPP wishes to welcome the College's newest members and encourages them to become active in their profession within their communities and provincially by working with the College and other regulatory and advocacy bodies.



## From the Desk of the Dean

### Dr. Jane Alcorn

**College of Pharmacy and Nutrition,  
University of Saskatchewan**

For the latest news from the College, visit our website:  
[pharmacy-nutrition.usask.ca](http://pharmacy-nutrition.usask.ca)

This new academic year is off to a great start for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and these first few months have been filled with positive news for both our faculty and students. As the college's new dean, I'm proud to share with you some remarkable moments in my first update:

The convocation ceremony for the college was held in June at the new Merlis Belsher Place on campus.

**Lisa Toy** and **Brooke Motowyllo** were recognized as the most distinguished graduates in pharmacy and nutrition.

Second year pharmacy student **Kellie Onda-Inglis** was recognized at a Huskie Athletics breakfast in October for her academic achievements in the 2018-19 athletic season. Kellie was named to both the U SPORTS Canada Academic All-Canadian Team and the Huskie Athletics All-Academic First Team for maintaining an average of at least 80%.

The Usask Pharmacy and Nutrition team raised \$2,924.91 at this year's Canadian Cancer Society CIBC Run for the Cure. They won the Post-Secondary Team Challenge Award for being the top fundraising post-secondary team.



Lisa Toy



The U of S American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Student Chapter held the Pharmacy and Nutrition Industry Day with **Dr. Brian Fahlman (PhD '09)** about global opportunities and careers in industry.

**Dr. David Blackburn** has been appointed as Acting Associate Dean Research and Graduate affairs until June 30, 2020. A search process for the Associate Dean Research and Graduate Affairs will proceed early in the new year with the intent to fill the position for July 1, 2020.

**Dr. Ed Krol** has been appointed Acting Associate Dean Academic for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. We wish **Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk** all the best when she begins her well-deserved administrative leave.

**Dr. Anas El-Aneed** has been appointed to the Executive Committee of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada for the term May 2019 to February 2021.

**Dr. Charity Evans** received the Provost's College Award for Outstanding Teaching for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at this year's Celebration of Teaching and Research.

Congratulations to the following faculty members on their promotions and renewals, which were effective July 1, 2019:



- **Dr. Carol Henry** promoted to full professor
- **Dr. Kerry Mansell** promoted to full professor
- **Dr. Jian Yang** promoted to full professor
- **Dr. Meena Sakharkar** renewed probationary appointment

Dr. Jane Alcorn  
Professor and Dean

## Upcoming Continuing Education

Program	Pharmacists/Pharmacy Technicians	Provider	Date	For more information:
Heart Disease & Stroke 2019 in Saskatoon	Health Professionals	University of Saskatchewan Health Sciences Continuing Education Group	Saturday November 16 and Sunday November 17, 2019	<a href="#">Poster</a>
SEMAC XI 2019 in Saskatoon	Health Professionals	University of Saskatchewan Health Sciences Continuing Education Group	Saturday November 30, 2019	<a href="#">Poster</a>
Travel Health: Guideline and Implementation Training	Pharmacists	CPDPP	Saskatoon, November 16, 2019	<a href="#">Saskatoon Program</a>
			Regina, November 17, 2019	<a href="#">Regina Program</a>

## Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) Examination Dates

### Pharmacist Schedule of Exams

For the most up-to-date exam schedules, please visit the PEBC website at [www.pebc.ca](http://www.pebc.ca).

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Fall Pharmacist <b>Qualifying Examination</b>	MCQ: November 13, 2019	Deadline passed
	OSCE: November 9, 2019	
Winter Pharmacist <b>Evaluating Examination</b>	January 8, 2020	Deadline passed
Spring Pharmacist <b>Qualifying Examination</b>	MCQ: May 19 & 20, 2020	February 21, 2020
	OSCE: May 23, 2020	

### Pharmacy Technician Schedule of Exams

Examination Name	Examination Date	Application Deadline Date*
Winter Pharmacy Technician <b>Qualifying Examination</b>	MCQ: April 5, 2020	December 6, 2019
	OSPE: April 4, 2020	

\* Applications must be **received** by the PEBC office no later than the application deadline date.



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