

Prescription Regulations

A synopsis * of Federal and Provincial Acts and Regulations governing the Distribution of Drugs by Prescription in Saskatchewan

* This synopsis is a condensation of some of the pertinent Acts and Regulations. Users of the chart are reminded that it has been compiled for convenient reference only and that the official legislation should always be consulted for the purposes of interpreting and applying the laws.

** Prescription Review Program: Please refer to the Prescription Review Program in the Pharmacy Reference Manual for details.

*** RECORDS - Narcotic Register includes either the approved manual or electronic (i.e. pharmacy computer) version.

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CLASS	DESCRIPTION	REQUIREMENTS	REPEATS	RECORDS ***
NARCOTIC DRUG** Examples: Codeine, Demerol, MS Contin, Novahistex DH, Percocet, Tussionex, Tylenol #4, Lomotil, Darvon-N, Talwin, etc.	All straight narcotics, all narcotic drugs or compounds for parenteral use. Compounds containing more than one narcotic or compounds with less than two non-narcotic ingredients. All products containing diacetylmorphine, oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, or pentazocine. Refer to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and to the Schedule to the Narcotic Control Regulations	Written prescription signed and dated by a practitioner. ** Refer to Prescription Review Program	No Repeats. All re-orders must be new, written prescriptions. However, a prescription may be dispensed in divided portions (part-fill), subject to professional discretion.	All receipts and all sales (except prescription sales of dextropropoxyphene) entered in Narcotic Register. Prescriptions filed in order of date and number in a special file designated for Narcotics and Controlled Drugs. If a part-fill is made, all records, including the prescription itself, and the Narcotic Register, must reflect the actual amount dispensed. Further part-fills must be documented and cross-referenced to the original prescription.
VERBAL PRESCRIPTION NARCOTIC** Examples: A.C. with Codeine 15, 30, 60 mg, Fiorinal C 1/4, C 1/2, Tylenol #2 and #3, etc.	A combination product not intended for parenteral use, containing one narcotic (only) and two or more non-narcotic drugs in therapeutic dose, not including products containing diacetylmorphine, oxycodone, hydrocodone, methadone, or pentazocine. Refer to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and to the Schedule to the Narcotic Control Regulations	Written or verbal prescription** from a practitioner. Verbal prescription must be reduced to writing by a pharmacist showing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • name and address of patient; • name, initials and address of prescriber; • name, quantity, and form of drug(s); 	No repeats. All orders must be new, written prescriptions. However, a prescription may be dispensed in divided portions, subject to professional discretion.	Receipts -- entry required in Narcotic Register. Sales -- no entry required for sales pursuant to prescriptions, but emergency supplies provided to another pharmacist and returns to licensed dealers must be recorded in sales portion of Register. Prescriptions filed in order of date and number in a special file designated for Narcotics and Controlled Drugs.
CONTROLLED DRUGS - LEVEL I** Examples: Dexedrine, Ritalin, etc.	Those drugs listed in Part I of the Schedule to Part G of the Food and Drug Regulations and Schedule III of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. They include amphetamines, methaqualone, methylphenidate, phendimetrazine, phenmetrazine, pentobarbital, and secobarbital.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • directions for use; • date; • prescription number; • name or initials of pharmacist. 	No repeats are allowed if original prescription is verbal. If written, the original prescription may be repeated if the prescriber has indicated in writing the number and frequency of repeats. ** Refer to Triplicate Prescription Program	All receipts and all sales entered in Narcotic Register. Prescriptions filed in order of date and number in a special file designated for Narcotics and Controlled Drugs.
CONTROLLED DRUG PREPARATION - LEVEL I**	A combination containing a controlled drug -- Level 1 -- as described above, and one or more active medicinal ingredients, in a recognized therapeutic dose, other than a narcotic or controlled drug.	** Refer to Prescription Review Program		Receipts -- entry required in Narcotic Register. Sales -- no entry required in Narcotic Register for sales pursuant to prescriptions, but emergency supplies provided to another pharmacist and returns to licensed dealers must be recorded in sales portion of Register. Prescriptions filed in order of date and number in a special file designated for Narcotics and Controlled Drugs.
CONTROLLED DRUGS - LEVEL II** Examples: Phenobarb, Tenuate, Ionamin, Anabolic Steroids (i.e. Delatestryl), etc.	Those drugs listed in Parts II & III of the Schedule to Part G of the Food and Drug Regulations and Schedule IV of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. They include: butorphanol, chlorphentermine, diethylpropion, nalbuphine, phentermine, thiobarbituric acid, barbituric acid and its salts and derivatives (except secobarbital and pentobarbital).	As immediately above, plus, in the case of verbal prescriptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • number and frequency of refills (if any) authorized. 	Repeats may be authorized on original prescription whether written or verbal , but authorization must indicate number and frequency of repeats.	Receipts -- entry required in Narcotic Register or invoices must be available to substantiate receipt. Sales -- no entry required in Narcotic Register for sales pursuant to prescriptions, but emergency supplies provided to another pharmacist and returns to licensed dealers must be recorded in sales portion of Register. Prescriptions filled in order of date and number in a special file designated for Narcotics and Controlled Drugs.
CONTROLLED DRUG PREPARATION - LEVEL II Examples: Fiorinal, Anabolic Steroids (i.e. Climacteron), etc.	A combination containing a controlled drug -- Level II -- as described above, and one or more active medicinal ingredients, in a recognized therapeutic dose, other than a narcotic or controlled drug.			
BENZODIAZEPINES & OTHER TARGETED SUBSTANCES Examples: Benzodiazepines (except for Flunitrazepam, Clozapine & Olanzapine), Mazindol, Pipradol, etc.	Those drugs listed in Schedule 1 of the Benzodiazepines and Other Targeted Substances Regulations.	Written or verbal prescription from practitioner. Verbal prescriptions must be reduced to writing by a pharmacist showing date, prescription number, patient's name and address, name and quantity of drug(s), directions for use, prescriber's name, name and initials of pharmacist, and number of refills (if any).	Repeats may be authorized on original prescription whether written or verbal , but authorization must be for a specific number of refills. Refills are permitted only if less than 1 year has elapsed since the date on which the prescription was issued. "PRN" is not valid authority for repeats.	Receipts -- entry required in Narcotic Register or invoices must be available to substantiate receipt. Prescriptions filed in the regular Schedule 1 file and must be retained for at least two years from the date of the last fill or refill.
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS	Those drugs listed in Schedule I of the Bylaws to the Pharmacy Act, 1996, including drugs listed in Schedule F to the Food and Drug Regulations .	Written or verbal prescription from practitioner. Verbal prescriptions must be reduced to writing by a pharmacist showing date, prescription number, patient's name and address, name and quantity of drug(s), directions for use, prescriber's name, name and initials of pharmacist, and number of refills (if any).	Repeats may be authorized on original prescription whether written or verbal , but authorization must be for a specific number of refills. "PRN" is not valid authority for repeats.	No entries required in Narcotic Register. Prescriptions filed in regular file and must be retained for at least two years from date of last fill or refill.
TRANSFER OF PRESCRIPTIONS	Only prescriptions for Schedule 1 may be transferred from one pharmacist to another at the request of a patient. Prescriptions for Narcotic and Controlled Drugs may NOT be transferred. Prescriptions for Targeted Substances may only be transferred ONCE .	The pharmacist receiving the transferred prescription shall indicate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the name of the pharmacist transferring the prescription; 2. the name and address of the pharmacy transferring the prescription; 3. the number of authorized repeats remaining, if any; 4. the date of the last fill or refill. 	When a prescription is transferred, the original prescription shall remain on file, and on it shall be entered: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the date of the transfer; 2. an indication that no further sales nor transfers may be made under the prescription (i.e. the word "VOID"); 3. the name of the pharmacy and pharmacist to whom the prescription was transferred; 4. the patient profile, manual or electronic, must also indicate the prescription is "VOID". 	

