18.1 The Prescription Review Program

(a) Panel of Monitored Drugs – The Prescription Review Program shall apply to all dosage forms of the following drugs, except where indicated otherwise:

ACETAMINOPHEN WITH CODEINE - in all dosage forms except those containing 8 mg or less of codeine

ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID (ASA) WITH CODEINE - in all dosage forms except those containing 8 mg or less of codeine

AMPHETAMINES - in all dosage forms

ANABOLIC STEROIDS

ANILERIDINE - in all dosage forms

BARBITUATES

BENZODIAZEPINES – in all dosages and forms

BUPRENORPHINE – in all dosages and forms

BUTALBITAL - in all dosage forms

BUTALBITAL WITH CODEINE - in all dosage forms

BUTORPHANOL

CHLORAL HYDRATE

COCAINE - in all dosage forms

CODEINE - as the single active ingredient, or in combination with other active ingredients, in all dosage forms except those containing 20 mg per 30 ml or less of codeine in liquid for oral administration

DIETHYLPROPION - in all dosage forms

FENTANYL - in all dosage forms

GABAPENTIN

HYDROCODONE - DIHYDROCODEINONE - in all dosage forms

HYDROMORPHONE - DIPHRYDROMORPHONE - in all dosage forms

LEVORPHANOL - in all dosage forms

MEPERIDINE - PETHIDINE - in all dosage forms

METHADONE - in all dosage forms

METHYLPHENIDATE - in all dosage forms

MORPHINE - in all dosage forms

NORMETHANDONE-P-HYDROXYEPHEDRINE - in all dosage forms

OXYCODONE - as the single active ingredient or in combination with other active ingredients in all dosage forms

OXYMORPHONE

PANTOPON - in all dosage forms

PENTAZOCINE - in all dosage forms

PHENTERMINE - in all dosage forms

PROPOXYPHENE - in all dosage forms

(b) Prescriptions for drugs covered by the Prescription Review Program shall be issued by physicians according to the policies and procedures agreed to and amended from time to time by the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association and the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists.

(c) In order to prescribe a drug to which the Prescription Review Program applies, physicians shall complete a written prescription which meets federal and provincial legal requirements and includes the following:

(i) The patient's date of birth;

(ii) The patient's address;

(iii) The total quantity of medication prescribed, both numerically and in written form;

(iv) The patient's health services number; and,

(v) The prescriber's name and address.

(d) For the purpose of this bylaw, "written prescription" includes an electronic prescription that meets the requirements for electronic prescribing under the Pharmaceutical Information Program.

(e) A physician who prescribes a drug to which the Prescription Review Program applies, and who provides the prescription directly to a pharmacy by electronic prescribing, by email or by FAX, or who transmits a prescription in accordance with the policies and protocols of the Pharmaceutical Information Program, need not include both the quantity numerically and in written form.

(f) If a physician is registered on the Educational Register, the physician shall, in addition to the information in paragraph (c) above, include the following in a prescription for a drug to which the Prescription Review Program applies:

(i) The training level of the physician writing the prescription;

(ii) The legibly printed name of the Most Responsible Physician (the physician to whom queries regarding the prescription should be addressed);

(iii) The legibly printed name of the physician writing the prescription.

(g) Physicians shall only prescribe part-fills of medications to which the Prescription Review Program applies if the following information is specified in the prescription:

(i) The total quantity;

(ii) The amount to be dispensed each time; and

(iii) The time interval between fills.

(h) The office of the Registrar may gather and analyze information pertaining to the prescribing of medications to which the Prescription Review Program applies in Saskatchewan for the purpose of limiting the inappropriate prescribing and inappropriate use of such drugs. In order to fulfill that role, the office of the Registrar may, among other activities:

(i) Generally, provide education to physicians in order to encourage appropriate prescribing practices by physicians registered by the College;

(ii) Alert physicians to possible inappropriate use of medications to which the Prescription Review Program applies by patients to whom they have prescribed such drugs;

(iii) Alert physicians to possible inappropriate prescribing of medications to which the Prescription Review Program applies;

(iv) Make recommendations to a physician with respect to the physician's prescribing of medications to which the Prescription Review Program applies;

(v) Require physicians to provide explanations for their prescribing of medications to which the Prescription Review Program applies. In making requests for explanations, the office of the Registrar may require the physician to provide information about the patient, the reasons for prescribing to the patient, and any knowledge which the physician may have about other narcotics or controlled drugs received by the patient;

(vi) Cause information, concerns or opinions of general application to the profession to be communicated to the physicians registered by the College without identifying the particular physician to whom such information relates;

(vii) Provide information gathered in connection with the Prescription Review Program to another health professional body including the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan, the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists or the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association, provided the information gathered is required by that body to perform and carry out the duties of that health professional body pursuant to an Act with respect to regulating the profession. Where the personal health information relates to a member of the health professional body seeking disclosure, disclosure by the Registrar of that information may only be made in accordance with The *Health Information Protection Act*, and in particular section 27(5) or that Act.

(i) Physicians shall respond to such requests for explanation, as described in paragraph (h)(v) above, from the office of the Registrar within 14 days of receipt of such a request for information.

(j) The Registrar, Deputy Registrar, or Prescription Review Program Supervisor may extend the deadline for reply at their discretion, upon receipt of a written request for extension from the physician.

(k) All physicians who receive such a request for information will comply, to the best of their ability, fully and accurately with such requests for information.

(l) Failure to comply with paragraphs (h)(v), (i) and (k) above is unbecoming, improper, unprofessional or discreditable conduct.

(m) Members shall keep a record of all drugs to which the Prescription Review Program applies that are purchased or obtained for the member's practice and a record of all such drugs administered or furnished to a patient in or out of the physician's office, showing:

(i) the name, strength and quantity of the drug purchased or obtained;

(ii) the name, strength, dose and quantity of the drug administered or furnished;

(iii) the name and address of the person to whom it was administered or furnished, and, if applicable, the name and address of the person who took delivery of the drug; and

(iv) the date on which the drug was obtained and the date(s) on which the drug was administered, furnished or otherwise disposed of.

(n) The record referred to in paragraph (m) shall be kept separate from the patient's medical record.