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## OCP STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION/ SCOPE OF PRACTICE Jurisprudence Seminar 2012

Diana Spizzirri, R.Ph., B.Sc.Pharm., ACPR, M.Ed.  
Registration Advisor, Registration Programs

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## Mission Statement of the Ontario College of Pharmacists

The Ontario College of Pharmacists  
regulates pharmacy to ensure that the  
public receives quality services and care

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## Ontario College of Pharmacists

In 2012, vision and values were created

- **Vision:** Lead the advancement of pharmacy to optimize health and wellness through patient centred care
  - **Values:** Transparency – Accountability - Excellence
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## Mandate

- To protect the public
  - Public interest (OCP) vs. self-interest of the profession (professional associations)
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## Stakeholder Relationships

- Faculty and School of Pharmacy – U of Toronto and U of Waterloo
  - Pharmacy Technician education programs
  - National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA)
  - Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC)
  - Other Health & non-Health Regulatory Colleges
  - Ontario Pharmacists' Association (OPA)
  - Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP)
  - Canadian Pharmacists' Association (CPhA)
  - Canadian Association of Pharmacy Technicians (CAPT)
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## Stakeholder Relationships

- Provincial Government
    - Office of the Fairness Commissioner
  - Ministry of Health
    - Ontario Drug Benefit
    - Drug Programs Branch
    - Program Policy Branch
  - Health Force Ontario
  - Federal Government
    - Health Protection Branch
    - Bureau of Drug Surveillance
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## OCP Council Composition (under RHPA)

- 9 - 17 elected members\* of the profession including 2 - 4 pharmacy technicians\*\*
- Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto
- Director, School of Pharmacy, University of Waterloo
- 9-16 public members (appointed by government)

\*2 hospital pharmacists per OCP Bylaw

\*\*1 hospital pharmacy technician per OCP Bylaw



## Council/Committee Structure

### Council Elections

- Held every August (Terms of Office staggered)
- President, Vice President
- Committees
- Nominating Committee



## Council/Committee Structure

### Role of Council Members

- Confidentiality
- Conflict of Interest
- Dealing with Questions
- Current issues

### Power of Council

- Make regulations subject to approval by provincial government



## Meetings of Council

- Four meetings annually
- Council brings members' views forward for discussion
- OCP Council Report and Council mailings
- Strategic plan
  - Outlines operational plan of action for a 3 year period
  - Serves as a plan for OCP to focus resources
  - Refer to website for current plan



## OCP Statutory Committees\*

- Executive
- Inquiries, Complaints and Reports (ICRC)
- Discipline
- Quality Assurance
- Patient Relations
- Fitness to Practice
- Registration
  
- Accreditation (under *Pharmacy Act*)



\*Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA)

## OCP Standing Committees\*

- Professional Practice
- Communications
- Elections

\*OCP By-laws



## Current Issues

- Changes to scope of practice & authorized acts to enhance the role of the pharmacists
- Regulation of Pharmacy Technicians
- Standards of Practice
- Remote Dispensing
- Labour Mobility



## Pharmacy Practice in Ontario



## Controlled Acts (RHPA, 27-29)

- Tasks with potential for harm if not done correctly by a competent person
- 13 +1 controlled acts
- No regulated profession is authorized to perform all controlled acts
- The same controlled act can be performed by more than one profession



## Who Can Perform Controlled Acts?

- Members of a regulated, authorized profession
- May be delegated by member in accordance with profession-specific regulations
- Uncontrolled acts are open to all, including unregulated workers



## Controlled Acts (RHPA, 27-29)

- 27.(2)
8. Prescribing, dispensing, selling or compounding a drug as defined in subsection 117 (1) of the *Drug and Pharmacies Regulation Act*, or supervising the part of a pharmacy where such drugs are kept.



## Regulated Health Professions Statute Law Amendment Act, 2009 (Bill 179)

The Act has been passed and awaiting regulations to support this Act.

Allows pharmacists

- more authorized acts
- expanded Scope of Practice



### Authorized Acts (Pharmacy Act C.36.s4)

In the course of engaging in the practice of pharmacy, a member is authorized, subject to the terms, conditions and limitations imposed on his or her certificate of registration, to perform the following:

- to dispense, sell or compound a drug or supervise the part of a pharmacy where drugs are kept.



### Authorized Acts (Pharmacy Act C.36.s4) continued...

- Administering, by injection or inhalation, a substance specified in the regulations\*
- Prescribing a drug specified in the regulations\*
- Prescribing a drug, other than a drug mentioned in paragraph 3, in accordance with the regulations\*
- Performing a procedure on tissue below the dermis. *Last amendment 2009, c. 26, s. 21 (2).*

**\*Regulations are being drafted to support the Act**



### Pharmacy Act

- Health Professions Procedural Code (s.2)
- Scope of practice (s.3)
- Authorized Acts (s. 4)
- Ontario College of Pharmacists (s.5,6)
- Council (s.7,8)
- Protected titles (s.10)



### Scope of Practice (Pharmacy Act C.36.s3)

The practice of pharmacy is the

- custody, compounding, dispensing & prescribing of drugs (as specified in the regulations)
- provision of health care aids and devices
- provision of information and education related to above



### Scope of Practice (continued)

The practice of pharmacy is the

- promotion of health, prevention and treatment of disease, disorders and dysfunctions through monitoring and management of medication therapy



### Certificates of Registration\*

- Registered Pharmacy Student
- Intern
- Pharmacist\*\*
- Pharmacy Technician\*\* (as of Dec.2010)

*\* terms, conditions and limitations for each class*

*\*\*protected titles*



## Pharmacy Technician Regulation

- Health System Improvements Act, 2007
- Members of OCP
- Voluntary registration
- Protected title “Pharmacy Technician” and use of “RPhT” designation
- Authority to perform controlled acts of dispensing and compounding **in collaboration with a pharmacist**
- Pharmacy may choose to employ pharmacy technicians



## Conditions of Registration - Pharmacy Technician

Pharmacy technicians have the authority to dispense and compound under defined terms and conditions

(e.g. final product check and release)

- in an accredited pharmacy, with a pharmacist physically present\*
- in other situations under the supervision or direction of a pharmacist

\*except in a remote dispensing location



## Conditions of Registration - Pharmacy Technician

The requirement that a pharmacist be physically present to supervise does not apply with respect to a remote dispensing location, as long as a pharmacist is actively supervising the pharmacy technician mentioned in that clause and,

- (a) a certificate of accreditation has been issued permitting the operation of the remote dispensing location; and
- (b) the remote dispensing location is operated in accordance with the regulations. 2009, c. 26, s. 8 (7)



## Conditions of Registration - Pharmacy Technician

- Shall not supervise the part of the pharmacy where drugs are kept
- Shall not delegate any controlled acts



## Pharmacy Technician Scope of Practice

- Pharmacy technicians will practice within the scope of their profession (defined in the NAPRA Competencies and Standards of Practice)
- Regarding the provision of information/education:  
“Shall **not** provide information or education relating to drug use, either to or for a patient, **where the provision of information requires therapeutic knowledge, clinical analysis or clinical assessment**”



## Pharmacy Technician Scope of Practice

Re: Provision of information or education

Example: glucometer education

- Pharmacy technician may educate the patient on the proper and effective use and maintenance of a glucometer
- If a patient asks a question that involves therapeutic decision-making, it must be referred to a pharmacist



### Pharmacy Technician Scope of Practice

Pharmacy technicians may

- Confirm accuracy and completeness of new and repeat prescriptions
- Perform a check of technical accuracy for prescriptions, ensuring collaboration with the pharmacist has taken place before release



### Pharmacy Technician Scope of Practice

- Accepting prescriptions
    - Written, verbal\*
    - New, repeats
  - Transferring\* prescriptions (in future)
- \* Legislation has passed to allow pharmacy technicians to accept verbal prescriptions (excluding narcotic and controlled drug prescriptions); federal legislative changes to the FDA are needed to allow pharmacy technicians to transfer prescriptions



### Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians

	Pharmacists	Pharmacy Technicians
NAPRA Entry to Practice competencies	✓	✓
Standards of Practice	✓	✓
Scope of Practice*	Same	
Code of Ethics	Same	
Personal professional liability insurance	✓	✓
Quality Assurance	✓	To be determined
Complaints and Discipline process	Same	

\*Same scope, but extent defined through regulations, standards of practice and competencies



### Protected Titles

- “apothecary”, “druggist”, “pharmacist” or “pharmaceutical chemist”, or an equivalent in another language
- “pharmacy technician”
- Up to \$25,000 fine for a first offence and \$50,000 for a second or subsequent offence



### Privileges of Registration Registered Pharmacy Students

Registered Pharmacy Students may perform the authorized acts under direct supervision:

- dispense prescriptions
- take prescriptions by telephone, if the pharmacist is comfortable
- dialogue with patients under direct supervision of a pharmacist



### Privileges of Registration Pharmacy Interns

Registered Pharmacy Interns may perform the authorized acts independently *with mutual agreement* from the preceptor

Interns require supervision: a pharmacist must always be available for consultation if necessary.



## Preceptors

Pharmacists/Pharmacy technicians registered with OCP who

- are prepared to take responsibility for supervising and assessing a student/intern/technician applicant
- have declared any potential conflict of interest with student/intern/technician
- have attended a preceptor training workshop offered by the College



## Preceptors for Structured Practical Training

Pharmacists registered with OCP who are

- licensed to practice pharmacy in Ontario
- licensed for at least one year in Canada
- providing direct patient care for at least 18 hours a week as a pharmacist
- in good standing with OCP

Pharmacy technicians are eligible to be preceptors for technician applicants



## Personal Professional Liability Insurance

- OCP By-law in 2007; amendments made in 2010
- Registration requirement for all:
  - Part A Pharmacists
  - Registered pharmacy students (as of Jan.2012)
  - Interns
  - Pharmacy technicians
- Transportable in Ontario
- \$2 million policy
- To support expanding role



## Maintaining Pharmacist Registration

- **Part A**
  - practicing direct patient care
  - 600 hours / 3 years
  - eligible for Practice Review
- **Part B**
  - still a member of the College
  - no patient care
  - must successfully complete Practice Review to move to Part A



## Maintaining Pharmacy Technician Registration

- Only one part Register
  - Active, practising member



## Quality Assurance Program

Continuing Competency Department	Pharmacy Practice Department
Learning Portfolio	Pharmacy Inspections
Self-Assessment (Practice Review – Phase I)	Referral to Accreditation Committee
Peer Review (Practice Review – Phase II)	



## Quality Assurance Program

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### Learning Portfolio

- Tool helps to plan and document continuing education activities
- All Ontario pharmacists and pharmacy technicians required to maintain a learning portfolio
- Submitted upon request



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## Quality Assurance Program

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### Practice Review for Pharmacists

- **Phase I**
  - 20% complete self-assessment
- **Phase II**
  - 200-300 randomly chosen pharmacists
  - clinical knowledge assessment
  - standardized patient interviews



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## Quality Assurance Program for Pharmacy Technicians

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- Maintain a Learning Portfolio
- Participate in continuing education

### Practice Review for Pharmacy Technicians

- Complete self-assessment (to be created)
- Peer Review (to be determined)



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