Dear Member,

The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals (SCPP) is working with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS) to provide further clarity on CPSS Regulatory Bylaw 18.1.

Click here for examples of prescriptions created by the Prescription Review Program (PRP).

Table: CPSS Bylaws section 18.1 on Written Prescription Requirements for PRP Medications (“Total Quantity” Clarification)

Note: The term “total quantity” has two different meanings in section 18.1 of the CPSS bylaw, depending on whether the bylaw applies to a medication that is listed in the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA), or listed in the Prescription Drug List (PDL).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section of Bylaw</th>
<th>Clarification of “Total Quantity” for Applicable Medications</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 18.1(c) of the CPSS Bylaws set written prescription requirements for all medications monitored under the PRP:</td>
<td>For all PRP medications, total quantity refers to the stated amount of the prescription, excluding part-fills or refills.</td>
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<td>(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:</td>
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<td>(i) The patient’s date of birth;</td>
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<td>(ii) The patient’s address;</td>
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<td>(iii) The total quantity of medication prescribed, both numerically and in written form;</td>
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<td>(iv) The patient’s health services number; and,</td>
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<td>(v) The prescriber’s name and address.</td>
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Section 18.1(h) sets out additional written prescription requirements for part-fills of all medications except for the PDL medications listed in 18.1(i) below:

(h) Other than as set out in paragraph (i), 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.

(i) The requirements related to part fills in paragraph (h) shall not apply to prescriptions for the following medications:

(i) baclofen
(ii) chloral hydrate
(iii) gabapentin
(iv) oxybutynin
(v) pregabalin
(vi) lemborexant
(vii) zopiclone

For controlled substances with part-fills, total quantity refers to the stated amount of the prescription, including the part-fills.

Example:

90 tablets (ninety)
Dispense 30 tablets every 30 days

For PDL medications (listed in 18.1(i)), the total quantity requires the stated amount of the prescription, excluding refills.

Example:

30 tablets (thirty)
Refill x 2

Reminder for Electronic Prescriptions:

Section 18.1(e):

(e) A physician who prescribes a drug to which the Prescription Review Program applies, and who provides the prescription directly to a pharmacy by secure electronic prescribing, 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.

For all PRP medications (controlled substances and PDL medications) when the prescription is provided electronically directly to the pharmacy, the total quantity may be written as:

30 tablets or thirty tablets

Additional questions regarding the PRP should be directed to the PRP:

- Telephone: 306-244-7355
- Email: prp@cps.sk.ca

Sincerely,

Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals