

MINUTES
Teleconference Meeting of Council
ALBERTA COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS
September 7, 2006

1. Call to Order

This teleconference meeting of council was called to order at 8:33 a.m.

2. Roll Call

The registrar called the roll call and declared that a quorum was established.

3. Approval of Agenda

6. Update on Legislation

7. September Council Meeting

MOTION: That the agenda be adopted as circulated with the addition of items # 6 and 7 and the amendment of the original item #6 to #8.

CARRIED

4. Bylaw Approval

ACP legal counsel advised that the *Health Professions Act* (HPA) and the *Pharmacy and Drug Act* (PDA) state that the standards of practice and code of ethics shall be developed through bylaws. Under the HPA, the standards of practice and code of ethics may be adopted through bylaws. Under the PDA, the bylaws are to be created after the approval of the regulation. However, the *Interpretation Act* allows us to develop the bylaws prior to approval of the legislation. The bylaws will come into effect when the legislation comes into effect; at that time, the standards will also come into effect. Council agreed that a review of the standards of practice for the HPA and the standards of operations for the PDA will be conducted six months after the regulations are passed.

MOTION: That council approves the *Pharmacy and Drug Act* Resolution regarding the adoption of proposed standards for the operation of licensed pharmacies with the following amendment to sections #1 and #2: "...members of the council of the college present and voting at a meeting..."

CARRIED

MOTION: That council approves the *Health Professions Act* Bylaw relating to the proposed standards for the practice of pharmacy under section 133 of the *Health Professions Act*.

CARRIED

5. Approval of "draft" Standards for the Purpose of Consultation

a. Standards of Practice (HPA)

- The development of the standards of practice consisted of 4 year work in progress, most recently led by the deputy registrar.
- The ACP Collaboration and Standards of Practice Working Group consists of 15 pharmacists with a diversity of experience in community and hospital pharmacy, research, teaching, and administration.
- The working group researched other approved standards of practice for pharmacists worldwide.

- The standards emphasize the responsibility of pharmacist to assess the appropriateness of drug therapy, identify any drug problems, and take appropriate action.

Executive members met with representatives of the Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors to discuss inducements. The wording regarding inducements has been withdrawn from the regulations to the HPA and PDA; however, our executive advised CCGD that our regulatory framework must:

- o prohibit bonus systems or strategies to promote access to goods or services involving pharmacists, drugs, or blood products;
- o prohibit inducements in return for goods or services provided in conjunction with a pharmacist prescribing or dispensing any drug or blood product; and
- o limit inducements involving pharmacists, drugs, or blood products, to the amount personally paid (net amount) by the patient.

Consensus: Inducements will not be addressed in the standards for the HPA and PDA at this time, but still remain a priority. A review of the standards of practice will be conducted six months subsequent to the legislation being passed and, at that time, consideration will be given to amending the standards to include parameters for inducements.

- Standard 16 (prescribing) and 20 (record keeping) defines the conditions for a pharmacist to initiate new therapies.
- It is not realistic to require pharmacists who adapt a prescription to enter the prescribing decision in the Electronic Health Record (EHR) because the EHR hasn't been developed to this capability. Information respecting a new drug therapy initiated by a pharmacist should be shared with other health professionals. This has the advantages of: mitigating concern; demonstrating ACP's commitment to Alberta Health and Wellness (AHW) and the Pharmacy Information Network (PIN); establish an expectation for AHW to complete and implement the EHR system to system interface; and establish a time line that software vendors can respond to.

Consensus: That the entry of new prescribing therapies will be included in the standards of practice pursuant to section 16(4) and that within 18 months information respecting the initiation of new drug therapies will be entered into the EHR.

MOTION: That council approves the Draft Standards of Practice for Pharmacists as presented for circulation to college members and external stakeholders for a 60 day consultation period.

CARRIED

b. Standards for the Operation of Pharmacies

The registrar advised council that a brief subsection needs to be added to the standards for the operation of pharmacies respecting compounding, sale, and labelling of veterinary drugs. Because the HPA only applies to human health, there is a need for this section to direct pharmacists in case they have a role in contributing to animal health.

MOTION: That council approves the Draft Standards for the Operation of Licensed Pharmacies as presented for circulation to college members and external stakeholders for a 60 day consultation period.

CARRIED

6. Update on Legislation

The registrar advised that he signed off on the regulations to the PDA on September 6, 2006. Hospital and mail order pharmacies will have a 6 month leeway for implementation of the regulations. The regulations may be considered by the Standing Policy Committee on September 11 and subsequently by cabinet on September 26, 2006. The Standards of Practice and the Standards for Operations will not be circulated to members until the Standing Policy Committee has approved the regulations to the PDA. ACP's goal is to circulate both standards on September 15 with feedback due by November 22, 2006. Council is scheduled to meet December 7-8, 2006.

7. September Council Meeting

The registrar advised that the agenda will be circulated by September 18, 2006. The sessions will commence as follows:

Sep. 28	12 Noon	Lunch
	1 - 5 p.m.	Council Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner
	7 - 9 p.m.	Council Development Session

Sep. 29	7:30	Breakfast
	8:30 a.m.	Council Development Session
	7:00 p.m.	Dinner

Sep. 30	8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
	9:00 a.m.	Council Meeting
	2:30 p.m.	Departure

8. Adjournment

This teleconference meeting of council adjourned at 10:00 a.m.