Professional Memorandum

To: Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, Pharmacy Students and Interns

Date: January 31, 2017

Re: Providing Naloxone

While Naloxone is only a small piece of addressing the opioid crisis in Nova Scotia, it is a critical piece. Community pharmacists are an important portal through which the public can access this life-saving intervention.

Pharmacists in Nova Scotia do not require any special certification in order to dispense Naloxone and provide the requisite client counseling/education. They are, however, expected to take reasonable steps to ensure that they are competent to do so.

There are various online educational resources that can enable pharmacists to provide the requisite counseling and education, including:

College of Pharmacists of British Columbia – Community Pharmacy Distribution of Naloxone webinar

School of Pharmacy, University of Waterloo - Naloxone teaching tools

Additional resources are included in the NSCP’s Position Statement, Naloxone for Opioid Overdose Reversal.

The NSCP encourages all registrants to take the steps necessary to respond appropriately to a request for naloxone.

Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists