Professional Notice

To: Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians, Pharmacy Students and Interns  
From: Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists  
Date: October 5, 2018  
Re: Updates to Pharmacy Practice Policies: Compliance Packaging, Prescription Labels and Return of Medications

Dear Pharmacy Professionals:

The Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists has updated its *Pharmacy Practice Policy: Compliance Packaging* to better reflect the growing use of technology and the involvement of pharmacy technicians in providing this service. The review was completed to ensure that the processes and systems used in the provision of this service include appropriate safeguards and provide clarity of responsibilities among the pharmacy team.

The revised *Pharmacy Practice Policy: Compliance Packaging* maintains the requirement that the package is tamper evident. During the review, it was revealed that some compliance packaging systems in use allow for packages to be easily resealed in the event that alterations to the package need to be made after they have been filled. For patient safety reasons, all packaging systems used must be tamper evident as defined in the Policy, including those that allow for pharmacy mid-pack cycle adjustments.

To align with the *Pharmacy Practice Policy: Compliance Packaging* revision, the requirements for labelling compliance packages have been moved to the updated *Pharmacy Practice Policy: Prescription Labels*, and the *Pharmacy Practice Policy: Return of Medication* has been updated.

Beverley Zwicker  
Registrar