Professional Notice

To: Pharmacy Practitioners
From: Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists
Date: July 14, 2021
Re: Pharmacist Prescribing Chemoprophylaxis for Lyme Disease

The NSCP Council has approved an addition to the Standards of Practice: Prescribing Drugs, Appendix G – Prescribing for a Diagnosis Supported by a Protocol that enables pharmacists to prescribe chemoprophylaxis for Lyme disease. This addition is effective August 1, 2021.

As the incidence of Lyme disease in Nova Scotia continues to increase, greater access to post-tick exposure care is needed. In addition to pharmacists’ current practice of educating their patients about Lyme disease, on August 1, 2021, pharmacists will be able to further support patients by prescribing prophylactic treatment in accordance with an established protocol.

The NSCP is planning to advise the public the week of August 16, 2021, that they are now able to seek post-tick exposure care at community pharmacies. The Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia is aware of this timeline and is working to establish educational support for pharmacy practitioners in the coming weeks.