

Professional Notice

To: Pharmacy Practitioners
From: Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists
Date: December 9, 2021
Re: Incorporation of COVID-19 Provisions into Standards

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NSCP made several pharmacy practice provisions in March 2020. In light of the profession's experiences over the past 20 months with these provisions, and in consultation with pharmacists and physicians, the NSCP Council has considered the long-term appropriateness of these provisions and has formally incorporated them into the *Standards of Practice: Prescribing Drugs* and *Standards of Practice: Opioid Agonist Maintenance Treatment*.

Please note that modifications have been made to three of the provisions under the Prescribing Standards effective January 1, 2022:

- Standard 4.1: Clarification of the factors to be considered by pharmacists in determining whether to prescribe a renewal and the quantity to be provided.
- Appendix C: Pharmacists are to resume communicating the assessment and prescribing details to the patient's primary care provider, unless the pharmacist determines it is not in the patient's best interest to do so or the prescribing activity would not reasonably be expected to impact or inform the patient's future care plan (rationale must be documented).
- Appendix H: Conditions under which pharmacists may prescribe narcotics and controlled drugs have been incorporated into Appendix H of the Standards, including clarification of the quantity that may be prescribed.