JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION (JE) INFORMATION GUIDE

A. General Information

The Jurisprudence Examination (JE) is based on legislation contained in federal and provincial acts, their regulations, bylaws and published College Professional Practice Policies that pertain to pharmacy operations and registrant (pharmacist or pharmacy technician) responsibilities in the practice of pharmacy. The examination is designed to assess the applicant's knowledge of and ability to interpret and apply all legislation that impacts on current pharmacy practice in B.C. It is not intended that applicants memorize the drug schedules, but they should be prepared to identify, interpret, and apply the pertinent legal requirements and procedures to be followed. Drug schedules will be supplied at the examination.

All exam applicants must read and adhere to Registration Committee Policy-3 "Jurisprudence Examination". As stated in this policy, an applicant may write the JE a maximum of 4 times.

B. Study Information

The examination is based on information in the College's *BC Pharmacy Practice Manual* available at: http://www.bcpharmacists.org/bc-pharmacy-practice-manual-0.

Refer to the Appendices below for the specific sections of legislation covered on the examination. Applicants are encouraged to use the College website as the primary and most current source of information about pharmacy legislation, standards of practice and policies. Those unable to access website resources may place an order through *eServices* -> *Online Store* to purchase a printed copy of the *BC Pharmacy Practice Manual*.

Note that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are referred to as "registrants" in the College's *Bylaws*. The term "registrant" is used in the examination.

For information on what to study for the exam, see the following JE Orientation Presentation:

- JE Orientation Presentation (mp4)
- JE Orientation Presentation (mp3)

Also review the 4 modules of the Code of Ethics: Educational Tutorial which cover topics such as the College's Code of Ethics, Conflict of Interest Standards and Model for Ethical Decision Making.

Note: The following changes have occurred subsequent to the production of the presentations above:

- Effective July 26, 2016, BC nurse practitioner can prescribe, compound, administer or dispense controlled drugs and substances in accordance with the standards, limits and conditions set by the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia.
- Effective April 1, 2017, BC midwives can prescribe, order and administer certain controlled drug substances in accordance with the standards, limits and conditions set by the College of Midwives of British Columbia.
- BC podiatrists can prescribe, compound, dispense and administer controlled drugs and substances that are Schedule I of the Drug Schedules Regulation. Pursuant to the Podiatrists Regulation, BC podiatrists currently do not have the authority to prescribe controlled drugs and substances that are Schedule 1A of the Drug Schedules Regulation.
- Effective May 19, 2018, the Government of Canada removed the regulatory requirement for practitioners to obtain a subsection 56(1) exemption to prescribe, administer, sell or provide methadone to their patients. Methadone is permitted to be prescribed in the same manner as other narcotics under the Narcotic Control Regulations (NCR). Practitioners and pharmacists are still required to meet all other applicable provisions of the NCR, as well as the requirements established by their Colleges governing their practice when dealing with controlled substances. Examples of such requirements include, but are not limited to, additional courses or training.

C. Examination Dates

JE sittings are held three times a year in February, June and October. Registration for each sitting will be made available approximately 1 to 2 months prior to the date of the exam.

Exam date and other information will be posted on the Jurisprudence Examination webpage on the College website or log into *eServices* as soon as the exam date and locations are confirmed.

D. Eligibility/Exam Registration Procedure

To be eligible to register for the JE, you must be:

- pre-registered with the College, or
- registered as a UBC student and in the final year of their pharmacy program.

To allow sufficient time for processing, the pre-registration application, along with all required documentation, should be received at least **one month** prior to the JE registration deadline.

Once applicants have pre-registered, they will receive an eServices ID number which can be used for online exam registration.

Registration and payment of the applicable fee for an exam sitting must be completed online through *eServices* on the College website.

Once registered for the exam, applicants will receive a payment confirmation email. To view details of the exam registered for (e.g. exam location, date, and time), log into *eServices* -> Register for Events. Applicants must bring picture identification to the exam.

E. Outside-of-Vancouver Sittings

Various locations throughout Canada have been pre-selected for those who wish to write the JE outside of Vancouver. The College will determine the site and invigilator and the exact time and location of the exam sitting will be available online at the time of exam registration. To view details of the exam and to register, log into *eServices* -> Register for Events.

Applicants must adhere to Registration Committee Policy-3 "Jurisprudence Examination".

F. Examination Accommodation

Applicants should refer to Registration Committee Policy-4 "Examination Accommodation Policy" if they wish to make a request for testing accommodations. A written request for the accommodation must be made at least 4 weeks prior to the examination date.

G. Withdrawal/Refund Policy

The fee for the examination is non-refundable and non-transferable to a different location or a future examination sitting. Special consideration may be given for medical reasons (physician's note is required) and bereavement reasons. In these cases, a written request must be submitted to the College and is subject to an administration fee.

H. Scoring and Results

Each question on the exam is worth one point. The full examination is weighted by the significance of the question in each category with respect to pharmacy practice. The pass/fail standard for the JE is established for each exam using a standard setting process. A representative group of registrant experts conduct a thorough review of the content of the examination, determining the minimum number of questions that must be answered correctly on that examination in order to pass. The ability level that corresponds to that minimum passing score is the pass/fail standard for the JE.

Applicants will be advised of their exam results one month after the scheduled exam date by mail. Applicants will be issued a standard met or standard not met result; actual scores will not be issued. For reasons of confidentiality, results will not be released by telephone, fax, or email. There will be no exceptions.

Jurisprudence Examination results are valid for a period of three years from the date the examination was written.

I. Appeals

Appeals for the Jurisprudence exam will only be considered for procedural incidents or personal circumstances that may have affected an applicant's performance on the exam. Refer to Registration Committee Policy-3 for "Jurisprudence Examination".

J. Examination Day Process and Security of Materials

ADMISSION AND IDENTIFICATION:

1. All applicants must show valid photo-identification (driver's license, passport, permanent resident card, UBC student card) and sign the registration list.

2. Applicants will place their personal belongings at the front or back of the room or as instructed by the invigilator, prior to the commencement of the examination and until the examination is complete.

3. Turn off all electronic devices or put them on vibrate or silent mode with their personal belongings.

4. No applicant shall be permitted to enter the examination room after the first 30 minutes or to leave during the first 30 minutes of the examination. Applicants who choose to enter once the examination has begun and within the first 30 minutes of the exam, will not be given any additional time to write the examination.

5. Applicants may bring a snack packaged in a clear plastic bag and water in a clear bottle with labels removed.

Applicant MATERIALS/CONDUCT:

1. The examination consists of a specific number of pages. Applicants must ensure they have received a complete examination paper. Applicants must read, print their name and sign the examination cover sheet. In signing the examination paper, applicants agree to maintain the confidentiality of all questions contained in the examination paper.

2. During the examination, the only material that may be consulted in answering questions is the drug schedules provided with the examination paper. No other reference material is permitted.

3. A copy of the drug schedules without the explanatory/descriptive information will be provided. Applicants are **responsible** to know how to use all of the schedules. Do **not** write on the drug schedules provided. A copy of the prescription regulations chart will not be provided. See Appendix A.

4. Applicants must not bring with them any electronic device including calculators, pagers, cellular phones and/or personal digital assistants (PDAs).

5. All procedures including filling in answers on the exam answer sheet must be completed within the three hour time allotment. The examination is scored based on the answers on the exam answer sheet **only**. An HB or preferably a #2B lead pencil must be used to mark the answer sheet. Applicants are responsible for bringing a pencil and eraser to the examination.

6. Applicants will not be permitted to ask questions of the invigilator except in cases of supposed errors in the papers.

7. Time will be called out when there is 2 hours, 1 hour, ½ hour and 15 minutes remaining in the examination.

8. Applicants found performing any of the following or similar dishonest practices shall be immediately dismissed from the examination, and the matter shall be reported to the Registration Committee.
    a. Using any books, papers, or other materials other than those provided by the College.
    b. Communicating with other applicants under any circumstances whatsoever during the examination period.
    c. Exposing written papers to the view of other applicants. Cheating on the exam.
    d. Impersonating an examination applicant.
    e. Threatening or belligerent behavior to others.

9. Applicants who need to leave the examination for any reason must be escorted by an invigilator, one applicant at a time.

SIGN-OUT PROCEDURE:

1. No applicant shall be permitted to leave during the first 30 minutes of the examination.

2. Applicants are not permitted to leave the examination room in the last 15 minutes of the examination. Applicants remaining during the last 15 minutes of the examination must remain seated until the end of the examination period and then proceed to sign-out.

3. Applicants must return the entire examination paper, drug schedules and exam answer sheet to the invigilator.

4. Applicants must sign-out upon completion of the examination.

K. Examination Format & Blueprint

The JE is a 3-hour examination composed of 149 questions, including multiple choice and true or false.

The following represents the major question categories on the Jurisprudence Examination and their approximate weightings (proportion of questions on the examination related to that component).

Categories	**Percent of Questions**
Health Professions Act, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act	15
Bylaws related to pharmacy practice, professional practice policies	45
Food and Drugs Act, Regulations and Schedules, Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, Regulations and Schedules, BC Drug Schedules	40

TYPES OF QUESTIONS:

Multiple Choice

On the scannable answer sheet, fill in the circle that corresponds to the same letter as the correct answer on the examination paper. Ensure that the question numbers on the answer sheet correspond with the question number on the examination paper.

1. Verbal prescription narcotics may be dispensed on the verbal instructions of:

A. a physician's nurse
B. an intern
C. a practitioner
D. all of the above
E. (B) and (C) are correct

Answer: C

2. Indicate the requirements for sale of 60 Ranitidine 150mg indicated for the treatment of heartburn.

A. Prescription required
B. Professional Service Area sale
C. Professional Product Area sale
D. Drug product which may be sold from any retail outlet

Answer: C

3. Indicate the requirements for sale of Heparin Topical.

A. Prescription required
B. Professional Service Area sale
C. Professional Product Area sale
D. Drug product which may be sold from any retail outlet

Answer: C

On the answer sheet find the answer circles for questions 1-3, and fill the circle containing the letter "**C**".

True-False

On the answer sheet fill in the appropriate answer circle ensuring that the question number on the answer sheet corresponds correctly with the question number on the examination paper.

4. Schedule II drugs may be sold without a prescription from any retail outlet.
   A. True
   B. False

The correct answer to question 4 is "**B**". On the answer sheet, find the answer circles for question 4, and fill the circle containing the letter "**B**".

L. Appendices

APPENDIX A – JURISPRUDENCE EXAMINATION CONTENT

1. **Federal Legislation**
   Links to the legislation below can be found on the College's website at:
   http://www.bcpharmacists.org/federal-legislation

   a. *Food and Drugs Act and Regulations*. The relevant extracts include:
      i. *PART C:* DRUGS – sections C.01.041 - C.01.049.
      ii. *PART G:* CONTROLLED DRUGS
         - DIVISION 1: GENERAL – sections G.01.001 - G.01.007.
         - DIVISION 3: PHARMACISTS – sections G.03.001 - G.03.017.5.
         - DIVISION 4: PRACTITIONERS – sections G.04.001 - G.04.004.5.
         - DIVISION 5: HOSPITALS – sections G.05.001 - G.05.004.
         - DRUG SCHEDULE TO PART G – Part I, Part II, Part III (these drug schedules will be included in the drug schedules package supplied for the Jurisprudence Examination)
      iii. *Prescription Drug List* (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/prodpharma/pdl-ord/pdl_list_fin_ord-eng.php)

   b. Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and Regulations. The relevant extracts include:
      i. *Narcotic Control Regulations*
         - Interpretation – section 2
         - Pharmacists – section 30 - 52
         - Practitioners – section 53 - 54
         - Hospitals – section 63 - 65
         - General – section 70 - 71
         - Schedule (this will be included in the drug schedules package supplied for the exam)

      ii. *Benzodiazepines and other Targeted Substances Regulations.* The relevant extracts include:
         - Section 2(1) – 2(3), 3(a), 3(b)(i-ii), 5 - 7
         - Part 2 – Section 48 – 57 - Pharmacists
         - Part 4 – Section 63 – 67 - Hospital
         - Schedule 2 (this will be included in the drug schedules package supplied for the exam)

2. **Provincial Legislation**
   Links to the legislations below can be found on the College's website at: http://www.bcpharmacists.org/acts-and-bylaws.

   a. *Health Professions Act (HPA),* its *Regulations* and *Bylaws*. The relevant sections include:
      i. *HPA sections 15.1, 16, 17, 25.8 - 25.95, 32.2*
      ii. *HPA Pharmacists Regulation*
      iii. *HPA Bylaws sections 64-83* **(Note: *HPA Bylaws*, sections 2-63 is not tested on the Jurisprudence Exam)**
      iv. *HPA Bylaws Schedule A – Code of Ethics – Detailed* **(Note: you do not need to memorize the Code of Ethics but be able to identify and apply the principles**).
      v. *HPA Bylaws Schedule F - Part 1*
      vi. *HPA Bylaws Schedule F - Part 3*

   b. *Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act (PODSA)*, its *Regulations and Bylaws*. The relevant sections include:
      i. *PODSA Bylaws* sections 18-28, 32-36
      ii. *PODSA Drug Schedules Regulation** (**Note: you need to memorize section 2 but you do not need to memorize the schedule of each drug as it will be provided for the exam**)
      iii. Controlled Prescription Program (CPP): http://www.bcpharmacists.org/drug-distribution
      iv. Prescription Regulations Chart: http://www.bcpharmacists.org/drug-distribution

   c. Professional Practice Policies, and their Orientation/Policy Guides: http://www.bcpharmacists.org/professional-practice-policies-and-guides

   d. Recent legislation information from the ReadLinks and College mailings: http://www.bcpharmacists.org/readlinks

3. **Drug Schedule resource provided for the Jurisprudence Exam:**
   - Consolidated copy, or
   - Individual links:
     - BC *Drug Schedules Regulation* without the explanatory/descriptive information: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/9_98
     - *Narcotic Control Regulations* – Schedule: http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.%2C_c._1041/page-14.html#h-10
     - Food and Drug Regulations – Schedule to Part G (Part I – III): https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/c.r.c.,_c._870/page-161.html#h-340
     - Benzodiazepines and Other Targeted Substances Regulations – Schedule 2 :http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-2000-217/page-15.html#h-43

APPENDIX B – OTHER EXAMINATION INFORMATION

1. *Food and Drug Regulations*, *Prescription Drug List* includes all prescription drugs available for sale in Canada *except* for narcotic, controlled, and targeted drugs. It is divided into two parts. Part 1 includes regular prescription drugs for human use which are neither narcotic, controlled or targeted drugs. Part 2 includes drugs for veterinary use.

2. If a drug is not listed in the provincial drug schedule but is listed in the *Prescription Drug List*, the drug still requires a prescription. Such a discrepancy may exist when the drug is new to the market but the amendment to the provincial drug schedule has not been made.

3. Drugs that are not assigned prescription status by Health Canada (i.e. not in the *Prescription Drug List*) and are *not* listed in any schedule of the *Controlled Drug Substances Act (CDSA)* and its Regulations, means provinces and territories can restrict the condition of sale of these non-prescription drugs as long as they are not less stringent than the federal decision. Many provinces and territories adopted the National Drug Schedules from NAPRA, but BC has its own provincial drug schedules to follow. Therefore a discrepancy in the drug schedules for a non-prescription product may be seen in BC when comparing the same product in another province.

4. Drugs that are *not* assigned prescription status by Health Canada (i.e. not in the *Prescription Drug List*) and are *not* listed in the BC drug schedules, means that they are unscheduled drug products. E.g. chlorpheniramine. They can be placed outside the 25-foot perimeter of the pharmacy or be sold from non-pharmacy outlets.

5. A drug on the *Prescription Drug List* under the *Food and Drug Regulations* that is a prescription may be included under a different name or therapeutic classification in the British Columbia drug schedules. For example: estrogen and progesterone are included under Sex Hormones; warfarin is included under 4-hydroxycoumarin; prednisone is included under Adrenocortical Hormones.

6. Practitioner is defined in the *Food and Drug Regulations* as a person who is entitled under the laws of a province to treat patients with a prescription drug, and is practising their profession in that province. In BC, *PODSA* defines practitioner as a person (a) who is authorized to practise medicine, dentistry, podiatry or veterinary medicine, or (b) who is (i) in a class of persons prescribed by the minister for the purpose of this definition, and (ii) authorized under the *Health Professions Act* to prescribe drugs or devices in the course of providing the services of a designated health profession as defined in section 1 of that Act. In the *Pharmacy Operations General Regulation* made pursuant to PODSA, midwives, nurse practitioners, optometrists, and naturopathic physicians are also defined as a practitioner. To determine whether other regulated health professionals can prescribe drugs or not, refer to their professional regulation under the HPA.

7. The definition of a practitioner under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA)* includes a person authorized to practice medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine and includes any other person or class of persons prescriber as a practitioner under the *New Classes of Practitioners Regulation*.

To determine what drugs a practitioner can prescribe, refer to their provincial professional regulation. For example, under the Midwives Regulations, midwives can prescribe Schedule I, IA or II of the Drug Schedules Regulation, whereas under the Podiatrist Regulation, they can prescribe Schedule I and II drugs only (i.e. not Schedule IA drugs). Therefore, federally, podiatrists can prescribe controlled drug substances but their provincial regulation needs to enable them to prescribe all controlled drug substances. Podiatrists are limited to prescribe Schedule I controlled drug substance but cannot prescribe Schedule IA drugs

8. Pursuant to the *Food and Drug Regulations* and the *Narcotic Control Regulations*, prescriptions and any records must be retained for a period of two years. Section 23(1) of the *PODSA Bylaws* states that prescriptions and patient records must be retained for three years from the date of the last refill. In this case, B.C. provincial legislation overrides the federal legislation as it is more stringent. As a result, invoices recording the purchase and receipt of Schedule 1 drugs and drugs regulated by the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and any records documenting the transfer of such drugs for any reason other than as authorized by a practitioner's prescription must be retained for not less than three years.

9. The definition of Controlled Drugs Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 is described in the Prescription Regulations Chart.
   Controlled Drug Part 1 = reportable control drugs
   Controlled Drug Part 2 = non-reportable control drugs
   Controlled Drug Part 3 = non-reportable anabolic steroids

10. Frequently asked questions:
    Targeted drugs: Part 1: Drugs which may be sold (benzodiazepines and others)
    Targeted drugs: Part 2: Drugs which may not be sold as they are illegal to possess

11. In British Columbia a prescription with authorized ongoing refills is only valid for one year from the prescribing date of the original prescription. The only exception is prescriptions for oral contraceptives, for which the time span for ongoing prescription authorization is a maximum of two years from the prescribing date *(HPA Bylaws, Schedule F, Part 1, Community Pharmacy Standards of Practice, Section 10(5)).*

12. Veterinary drugs cannot be sold without a prescription from a veterinarian unless they are sold only in the manufacturers original container labeled "for veterinary use only" or "for agricultural use only." The pharmacist cannot repackage veterinary drugs to be sold without a prescription.