



www.bcpharmacists.org



Controversy swirls over international pharmacy services

Recent news stories across Canada have raised concerns about pharmacies that provide international prescription services. Headlines warn of safety issues and potential drug shortages arising from this \$1 billion industry.

According to Registrar Linda Lytle, there are probably at least 10 high-volume, international prescription service pharmacies operating in B.C. "Telehealth and telepharmacy are emerging realities," says

Linda. "We want to work with providers using new technologies to make sure they continue to provide safe and effective pharmacy care."

The driving force behind this relatively new sector is that many drugs are significantly less expensive in Canada than in the U.S. Internet access has made it easy for Americans to save money by buying drugs directly from Canadian pharmacies.

"The College does not object to pharmacists providing prescription products and services to foreign patients, as long as they fulfill the requirements of the *Framework of Professional Practice* (FPP) and federal and provincial legislation," says Linda.

She explains that this means pharmacists must counsel patients each time they dispense a prescription, and also find and fix drug-related problems. "These requirements

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Medical marijuana coming to your pharmacy?

The Ontario Superior Court of Justice recently ruled that the current program permitting authorized patients to possess marijuana for medical purposes is unconstitutional because it does not provide for a safe and legal supply.

The federal government has adopted an interim policy for the distribution of the marijuana produced by Prairie Plant Systems

Incorporated under a contract with Health Canada. The distribution system that has been implemented in the short-term does not involve pharmacists.

In August, however, federal Health Minister Anne McLellan announced plans to hold discussions with provincial pharmacy regulatory authorities, the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities and the Canadian Pharmacists Association. Scheduled for mid-September, these talks might determine whether community pharmacies will distribute

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COLLEGE MISSION

To ensure British Columbia pharmacists provide safe and effective pharmacy care to help people achieve better health.

AGM highlights professional development

If you're interested in finding better ways to communicate with your clients, or you'd like to learn more about how elderly people manage their medications, make sure to mark Saturday, November 29, 2003 on your calendar.

This year's Annual General Meeting offers two free professional development events that provide insights from recent local research studies sponsored by AstraZeneca Canada Inc.

One session highlights findings from "PrescriptionWise", a project that developed public education materials and then studied how well they worked in five Vancouver Island pharmacies. One of the goals of the study was to find out how much handouts influence people's understanding of their medication and their rate of compliance.

The second session compares the results of two studies of drug-related problems among the elderly. The first study looked at the level of pharmacist involvement in patient care at two intermediate care facilities located in Vancouver and how differing levels of involvement affected patient outcomes. The second research project studied medication use among seniors living in their own homes and may suggest methods community pharmacists can use to help elderly people reduce drug-related problems.

Annual General Meeting Day

Date	Saturday, November 29, 2003
	9:30 – 11:30 am Professional development sessions
	Noon – 1 pm Hosted lunch
	1 – 4 pm Annual General Meeting
Location	Tynehead Ballroom, Sheraton Guildford Hotel 15269-104 th Ave. Surrey, B.C.
AGM Topics	President's and Registrar's annual reports, financial reports, Council election results, special recognition of pharmacists registered for 45 years, new business
Contact	Samantha Lam, 800-663-1940, ext. 220

Overview of PDAP orientation session now available

The College has developed a PowerPoint presentation on the Professional Development and Assessment Program (PDAP) Orientation Session for pharmacists who were unable to attend. This presentation provides background on the program and details about the program structure, options and timelines. It is a useful complement to your PDAP Handbook.

The presentation is available on the College web site www.bcpharmacists.org > professionaldevelopment > prodevassessment/. If you would like a copy on CD-ROM, please contact Lori Tanaka at the College, email: lori.tanaka@bcpharmacists.org.



Multiple-source clozapine

More than one company now manufactures and distributes clozapine. Because of the unique nature of the drug and the need to carefully monitor each patient's hematological status, Health Canada has established certain requirements:

- Each manufacturer must have a national database to monitor the hematological status of patients being treated with its brand of clozapine.
- The database must have the ability to identify patients who have been assigned "non-rechallengeable status." Within 24 hours of receiving a written request, a manufacturer must confirm with other manufacturers the patient's hematological status and that the patient is not in the non-rechallengeable category. This must be done before a prescription is dispensed.
- The monitoring program is expected to provide timely feedback (within 24 hours of receipt of blood test results) to the treating physician and pharmacist or pharmacy.

Please keep in mind the following important points when dispensing clozapine:

- The pharmacy and prescriber must be registered with the appropriate monitoring program(s). According to Health Canada, this requires the completion of a full registration form by the prescriber when a brand switch is made.
- The patients must be registered with and approved by a monitoring program.
- The pharmacist must ensure that a CBC and Differential Count have been performed within the appropriate timeframe.

The Clozapine Resource Centre at Riverview Hospital (604-524-7290) is available as a resource for pharmacists who have questions about clozapine monitoring program procedures.



DRUG UPDATES AND ADVISORIES

HEALTH CANADA ADVISORIES

- **Casodex® (bicalutamide) 150 mg - withdrawal of approval due to accelerated deaths in patients with localized prostate cancer**
- **GlucNorm® (repaglinide) and gemfibrozils - safety information on concomitant use of these products**
- **Estrogen plus progestin (Premplus™) - safety information for women 65 years of age or older**
- **Topamax (topiramate) - reports of oligohidrosis (decreased sweating) and hyperthermia**
- **Paxil® (paroxetine hydrochloride) - warning against use by children under 18 years of age until further information is available**
- **Empowerplus, EM Power + and EM Power - advisory against consumer use of these products**
- **Ephedra/ephedrine - consumer reminder of the dangers of these products**
- **Lipitor® - advisory of counterfeit Lipitor in the U.S.**

See detailed postings on the NAPRA (www.napra.ca) or College (www.bcpharmacists.org) web sites.

PRECURSOR CONTROL REGULATIONS UPDATE

New federal Precursor Control Regulations were implemented in July 2003 but no changes are required for the national or provincial Drug Schedules. This regulatory initiative is intended to address diversion and illicit use of the drugs, rather than addressing public health or safety.

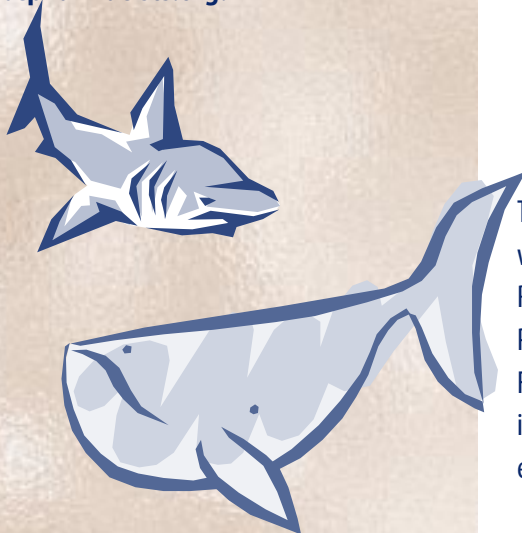
PARTY WITH WHALES

Once a year the hundreds of pharmacists who volunteer their time to help our profession get their day in the sun – although this year they're going to spend most of it underwater.

"Party with whales" is the theme of the November 27, 2003 Volunteer Recognition Day celebration. Members of Council's many committees are treated to a special behind-the-scenes tour of the Vancouver Aquarium. After coming face-to-face with sharks and alligators they relax over hors d'ouvres in a private underwater viewing room while being checked out by some of the Aquarium's largest residents.

"Many of our committee members travel long distances and put in countless hours to make our profession function smoothly and effectively," says Registrar Linda Lytle. "We want to let them know how much they are appreciated."

For more information on how you can get involved in one of the College's many committees, please contact Sharon Kerr, 800-663-1940, ext. 239, email: sharon.kerr@bcpharmacists.org.



Fee reimbursement policy changes for pregnancy/parental leave

The College has fine-tuned its fee reimbursement policy for pharmacists on pregnancy/parental leave. The adjustments are outlined below:

- Applicants must now complete an "Application for Fee Reimbursement" form within ONE month of commencing their leave.
- If a reimbursement is required, the applicant must return the registration fee receipt for the current year's fees to the College. A new receipt will be issued for the revised amount.
- The registrant's name will be transferred to the Nonpractising Register at the time of application for fee reimbursement.
- If reimbursement is required, the registrant will receive a refund calculated on a pro-rated monthly basis from the first full month after their transfer to the Nonpractising Register.
- The College will waive the return-to-practice transfer fee payment for registrants in this category if they resume practice within 14 months of their transfer to the Nonpractising Register.

The full policy can be viewed at www.bcpharmacists.org > Registration > Registration Information > Pregnancy/Parental Leave > Pregnancy/Parental Leave Fee Reimbursement Information. For further information, please contact Neetika Bains, email: neetika.bains@bcpharmacists.org.

New regulations for natural products

Based on a comprehensive consultation process, new Natural Health Products Regulations (NHP Regulations) will come into effect beginning January 1, 2004. Health Canada's Natural Health Products Directorate will be placing requirements on people who manufacture, package, label, import or distribute NHPs to ensure that Canadians have ready access to natural health products that are safe, effective and of high quality.

All manufacturers will be licensed by Health Canada. New guidelines will require natural products to meet quality standards, and consistently contain what is stated on labels.

Product licenses will be required for all natural products. Licensed products will now get an 8-digit license number starting with the "NPN" or "DIN-HM" for homeopathic products.

Health claims will be permitted for licensed products, but only if supported by adequate scientific evidence showing safety and efficacy.

Labels will contain a lot more information. Every licensed product will list active and inactive ingredients, health claims, dosing, proper storage, cautions, contraindications and potential adverse effects.

These changes will take time to implement, ranging from two years (for site licensing) to six years (for licensing of products that have a D.I.N.). Health Canada will provide businesses with working tools and processes to support this transition, and a public education program will be initiated this fall.

More information on the NHP Regulations can be viewed at the Natural Health Products web site: www.healthcanada.ca/nhpd.

LONG-TERM CARE

Narcotics in Licensed Facilities and Homes

The College office frequently receives questions from pharmacists, facility staff and community care licensing officers about the security and accountability of narcotics and other controlled drugs in facilities and care homes. Pharmacists may find the following points helpful.

Security

The regulations require that all medications be kept secure. There are no specific additional legal requirements regarding the storage of narcotics and controlled drugs. It is the responsibility of the Medication Safety and Advisory Committee to decide on the level of security that will prevent access to the drugs by residents, visitors to the facility or staff who are not authorized to handle medications, but not excessively hinder the staff distributing the medications. It is important to remember that staff members are called upon to deal with emergency situations and must be able to secure medications quickly before they leave to attend to those emergencies.

Counts

There are no legal requirements for drug counts in care facilities. The Medication Safety and Advisory Committee may decide whether or not to require counts, on which drugs to conduct counts, and how often to do them.

Any system that is implemented needs to balance the peace of mind of the staff members with the need to not place onerous demands on nurses' time.



Facilities may want to count certain "prn" medications, as it could be some time before discrepancies are noticed. It may be easier to have those "prns" on a separate rack.

Regularly administered narcotics do not need to be counted. They are, in effect, being counted simply by being at the same blister number as all of the other regularly administered medications.

Documentation of returns

Licensing officers doing drug loss investigations, as well as facility staff, have expressed concerns about the lack of documentation for returns of narcotics. Most facilities and homes use a "returns sheet" to list the medications being returned and the reason for the return. It has been suggested that the facility should include the quantity of each of the narcotics and controlled drug orders being sent back and band those medications together with a note to the pharmacist's attention. As soon as the medications arrive at the pharmacy the pharmacist would do a quick check of the sheets and the narcotic and controlled medications, initial and date-stamp the sheet confirming that those quantities had been received, and fax the sheet back to the facility.

Any questions about service to long-term care facilities and homes can be directed to Margaret McLean at the College, ext. 235, email: margaret.mclean@bcpharmacists.org.

B.C. PHARMACISTS' USE OF NAPRA WEBMAIL CONTINUES TO GROW

Since the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) began its webmail system in January 2003, it has seen a steady increase in utilization. Of the seven provinces using the system, B.C. has the highest number of users.

The number of active NAPRA webmail users in B.C. (i.e. using the system a minimum of once per month) has climbed from approximately 350 in March to close to 500 in June.

It appears that the majority of active users are taking advantage of NAPRA's webmail system and are using it as their primary email service. For example, B.C.'s domain contains over 5,000 messages.

NAPRA is continuing to maintain and enhance the mail system to satisfy the requests of its users and the provincial Registrars. NAPRA's webmail developer is working with the CPBC to accommodate a conversion of member email accounts to the pharmacist's provincial license number. Members will log-on to the mail system with their license number, with the ability to send messages to "mail aliases" (firstname.lastname@cpbc.napra.ca).

Another feature NAPRA is currently working on with the College is the creation of email accounts for registered pharmacy students and non-practising pharmacists. It is envisioned that registered pharmacy students would be provided with email log-ons that would convert to the license number configuration upon licensure.

Any questions or comments about the webmail system are welcome and can be forwarded to Registrar Linda Lytle at the College, email: linda.lytle@bcpharmacists.org.



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

This Bulletin column features frequently asked questions by pharmacists contacting the College's OnCall Pharmacist Information Line, 800-663-1940.

Q Are changes to the directions section of a duplicate / triplicate prescription acceptable?

A Yes, however the following requirements must be met:

- The quantity dispensed must not exceed the original total quantity prescribed.
- The changes must have written confirmation signed by the prescribing physician. It is permissible to receive this confirmation via facsimile.
- The pharmacy must file the original duplicate / triplicate prescription with the written confirmation for direction changes.
- The written confirmation for direction changes must be for a specific duplicate / triplicate prescription and cannot be a blanket statement.

Q Is Botox® a prescription drug?

A Yes, Botox® requires a prescription because Botulinum Toxin Type A is listed in Schedule I.

Q What are the requirements for labeling oral contraceptive compliance packages?

A Foil-wrapped oral contraceptive compliance packages must be labeled individually, either on the dial itself or on the outer foil wrap. Non-foil-wrapped oral contraceptive compliance packages must also be labeled individually except in refill situations where the refill is inserted into a permanent compliance package. In these instances the refill packages may be taped together and a single prescription label affixed.

Q Can I sell epinephrine ampoules to someone who wants to make their own emergency first aid kit?

A No, epinephrine and its salts is Schedule I unless it is in pre-filled syringes intended for emergency administration by injection in the event of an anaphylactic reaction to allergens.

Q What does the veterinary abbreviation "sid" mean?

A It means once daily or every 24 hours.

Bottles and sip cups between meals

Submitted by Public Health Services, Dental Program, Fraser Health Authority

Attractive bottles and sip cups are available in most pharmacies. Misuse of these feeding devices and the contents they contain can contribute to tooth decay in young children. Breast milk, cow's milk, formula, fruit juice and any sweetened drink contain sugars that can cause tooth decay. If a bottle or sip cup containing these liquids is offered as a pacifier many times a day the chance of developing tooth decay is increased. Watering down juices, punches or milk still has the same potential to cause tooth decay.

A bottle habit may be prevented if a cup is introduced between 6 and 12 months of age. A toddler has a bottle "habit" when they frequently suck on a bottle as though it were a pacifier. The bottle is used for comfort rather than nutrition. This is a concern because a toddler's teeth are at risk for tooth decay if they are drinking from a bottle filled with anything other than water during rest and sleep periods. The risk is the same if a toddler walks around drinking from a bottle or sip cup during the day.

Milk or juice should be provided at meal times and water offered as a thirst quencher throughout the day. A good way of looking at bottle and sip cup use is that if the bottle or sip cup is provided for feeding, it should contain milk. If it's provided for comfort, it should contain water. These tips are an important step towards a lifetime of healthy teeth.

COMMUNITY PHARMACY

Reminders About Handling Methadone Prescriptions

The PharmaNet patient profile is an extremely useful tool for pharmacists as well as other health professionals. Since March 1999, emergency departments in B.C. hospitals have been eligible to connect to PharmaNet. Pharmacists, emergency department physicians and physicians in private practice rely on PharmaNet to provide accurate and current information about a patient's medication history. These professionals are making treatment decisions based on the PharmaNet patient record.

Inaccuracies on the PharmaNet patient record can lead to confusion and potentially the refusal to dispense or even the refusal to treat a patient. One medication that requires special diligence is methadone.

Methadone is often prescribed as a daily witnessed dose, and each dose that a

pharmacist witnesses must be accurately recorded on PharmaNet.

Recently there have been a number of problems related to inaccurate PharmaNet entries about methadone therapy. Please ensure that all pharmacy staff are aware of the following three points and that they are a regular part of your methadone practice.

- All methadone doses entered into PharmaNet for a specific day must be reversed by the end of that business day if the dose has not been picked up.
- If a patient misses a day of methadone treatment, that day's dose of methadone cannot be given to the patient on a subsequent day.
- The prescriber field in PharmaNet does not flag a physician's name to indicate if they are authorized to prescribe methadone. If you have a question or concern about the authority of a physician to prescribe methadone, you may contact the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia at 604-733-7758.



NAPRA ACTIVITIES BENEFIT PHARMACY IN B.C.

NAPRA completed numerous initiatives over the summer to service the College and B.C. pharmacists:

- Met with Health Canada regarding the federal government's actions to ensure authorized patients have ready access to marijuana, Precursor Control Regulations, and negotiations to schedule modafanil.
- Represented NAPRA members at a meeting about the establishment, governance and mandate of a new Canadian Patient Safety Institute.
- Collected feedback from NAPRA members on our "Model Continuing Competence Program Framework" proposal. While many respondents expressed concerns about the eventual costs of implementing such a program, there was confirmation of a commitment to continue with centralized, coordinated program development.
- Invited via letter 2,391 randomly chosen pharmacists across Canada (including 713 from B.C.) to participate in an on-line survey to validate the entry-to-practice competencies used for the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy's NAPLEX examination. A high degree of correlation between the qualifications and practices of Canadian and U.S. pharmacists will set the scene for continued work on an international Mutual Reciprocity Agreement with our U.S. neighbours.

For more information about NAPRA activities, contact Registrar Linda Lytle at the College, email: linda.lytle@bcpharmacists.org.

RESOURCE SOURCE

■ RxCAFE hosts hot topics

Launched in March 2001, UBC CPE web site's "RxCAFE" chat room is the place to catch up on hot topics in pharmacy. This on-line pharmacy discussion forum is designed for B.C. pharmacists to discuss educational and practice issues with colleagues from across the province.

You can visit the site and review discussion topics at <http://www.ubcpharmacy.org/cpe/rxcafe/>.

■ BCPHA makes reference texts widely available for PDAP

The British Columbia Pharmacy Association has announced that textbook services will be available to all BCPHA members. Any member of the BCPHA can now purchase textbooks, including the recommended references for the upcoming CPBC Knowledge Assessment. These include the *CPS*, *Therapeutic Choices* and *Patient Self-Care*.

The previous policy allowed for the provision of the textbook service only to the Association's corporate members, but not individual members.

For more information please contact Pat Carlson, Coordinator Member Services, at 604-261-2092 or email her at pat.carlson@bcpharmacy.ca.

■ BCHealthGuide materials

Pharmacies can order BCHealthGuide materials from the program's office, email: hlth.bchealthguide@gems8.gov.bc.ca. An order form is enclosed with this Bulletin for program promotional items (brochures in four languages, business cards, magnets, new posters).

Pharmacies can also order up to 25 copies of the HealthGuide to have on hand for patients new to the province or who may have misplaced the original handbook distributed to B.C. residents two years ago.

PROFILE: Board of Examiners Assessing the assessments

With all the recent talk about professional assessment, you may wonder who assesses the assessments? Who makes sure questions on the Knowledge Assessment exam are reasonable? Who reviews and approves components of the Professional Development and Assessment Program (PDAP)?

This is the role of the Board of Examiners (BOE), a group of practising pharmacists who bring together expertise in all facets of pharmacy. BOE members have the final say on every detail of assessment programs. They review the work of College staff, evaluate all assessments carried out by the College and report their recommendations to Council. The BOE also responds to appeals made by members regarding their assessment and results.

BOE Chair Maria Finamore has been involved with various College committees since the 1980s. "My first exposure was as a Panel Exam assessor," she recalls. "I had a rude awakening when I realized I didn't know how to answer some of the questions that we were expecting new graduates to know."

Members of the Board also chair the committees involved in assessment, such as Jurisprudence Examination, Peer Review, English Language, Knowledge Assessment, and Learning and Practice Portfolio. "Our members come from many different types of practice, from community to hospital to drug information," says Maria. "Having Council President Erica Gregory on the BOE has



Maria Finamore

been a special asset because it ensures excellent communication with Council."

Maria believes there are many benefits for members who become involved in a BOE committee. "You get to work with pharmacists from many types of practices, contribute to the profession, influence its direction, and share ideas with colleagues," she says.

"I especially enjoy serving on the BOE," adds Maria, "because it allows me to see the whole picture, to see how the different assessment and development programs complement each other. Through the tireless efforts of College staff, all of us have become knowledgeable in the field of adult education and the concept of continuous learning."

For more information about the BOE and its committees you can check out the College web site at www.bcpharmacists.org or talk to your district representative. If you have specific questions you can address them directly to the BOE through Maria, email: mfinamore@shaw.ca.

Board of Examiners

Maria Finamore (Chair)

Caroline Chin

Peter Cook

Erica Gregory

Melissa Haynes

Lorna Kroll

Kathy McInnes

Bruce Millin

Maria Ton

Marguerite Yee

International pharmacy services

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Linda Lytle

are the same as for local home-delivered prescriptions where the pharmacist does not have face-to-face contact with the patient."

Recent headlines have highlighted several issues regarding cross-border prescriptions. One relates to Canadian physicians who co-sign prescriptions for foreign patients. "Council's position is that it is not the pharmacist's responsibility to determine the legitimacy of the prescribers' relationship with their patients," says Linda. However, pharmacists are responsible for ensuring the physician is licensed in Canada and reporting any concerns they have about a prescriber to the appropriate College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Another deals with safety issues. What if a patient in Florida experiences a negative drug reaction to a medication prescribed in Canada? Who is responsible? According to Linda, "the B.C. pharmacist would need to work with the Florida resident and their Canadian physician to resolve the drug-related problem. This could mean referring the patient to their local physician or pharmacist for quicker action."

Drug shortages are also being blamed on the growing international pharmacy trade. At least two major pharmaceutical manufacturers have threatened to stop supplying Canadian pharmacies which dispense drugs to U.S. citizens.

"Although there have been reports of drug shortages, they have not conclusively been linked to international prescription service providers," says Linda. An international

prescription pharmacy that experiences drug shortages affecting their B.C. patients has two choices. The pharmacy can discontinue cross-border deliveries or refer local patients to another pharmacy.

For more information please contact Registrar Linda Lytle at the College, email: linda.lytle@bcpharmacists.org.

- B.C. pharmacies advertising pharmacy services through the Internet must ensure the on-line aspect of their operation complies with practice standards. In addition, the pharmacy must comply with all federal and provincial legislation.
- Find more information on international pharmacy services at www.bcpharmacists.org. > Resources > CPBC Bi-monthly Bulletin > Archived Bulletins > July/August 2002 > Page 5, "Providing pharmacy services to residents of foreign countries", or contact the College for an information package "International Prescription Services".

- B.C. pharmacies offering pharmacy services on-line must provide the following information on the homepage of all web sites that represent the pharmacy.

www.AnyNameImplyingPharmacy.com

- Licensed pharmacy operating name
- Physical location of the licensed pharmacy
- Licensed pharmacy telephone number (including area code)
- Name of the pharmacist named as the manager on the pharmacy license

This pharmacy is duly licensed in the province of British Columbia, Canada by the College of Pharmacists of B.C.

The College of Pharmacists of B.C. can be contacted at 200-1765 West 8th Avenue, Vancouver, Canada V6J 5C6.

"If you reside outside of the jurisdiction of British Columbia, Canada and a problem arises with our pharmacy, you can contact the College of Pharmacists of B.C. to report your concern."

- Find more information on advertising requirements for international prescription providers at www.bcpharmacists.org > Resources > FYI and Q&A > Pharmacy web site requirements, May 2003.

CONGRATULATIONS TO AWARD RECIPIENTS

Two Oliver, B.C. pharmacists, Dale Dodge and Dan Friesen, have received the Canadian Pharmacists Association's Patient Care Achievement Award for Innovation, sponsored by Apotex Inc. The award was presented in Vancouver June 1, 2003 at the 91st annual Canadian Pharmacists Association conference.

Dale and Dan's work in developing a tool to help community pharmacists record and follow up on initial medication counselling sessions is receiving rave reviews after preliminary program testing.

Congratulations to Janice Reynolds of Quesnel, this year's recipient of the Whitehall-Robins Bowl of Hygeia Award, recognizing pharmacists' service to their communities. In addition to Janice's professional accomplishments and contributions to pharmacy, she is an active volunteer fundraiser in Quesnel for cancer research. She coordinates a mini-marathon in her community to help raise funds for the B.C. Cancer Agency.

The College invites pharmacists to consider candidates for next year's Bowl of Hygeia Award. Nominations can be forwarded to Linda Lytle at the College, email: linda.lytle@bcpharmacists.org.

Check www.bcpharmacists.org or
www.ubcpharmacy.org/cpe for details

PLAN TO ATTEND

- Event** Victoria Fall Lecture Series
Date Monday, October 20, 2003 Palliative care in the community
Monday, November 3, 2003 New drugs/drug news
Monday, December 1, 2003 Controversies in the treatment of
hypercholesterolemia
- Location** Holiday Inn Blanshard, 3020 Blanshard St., Victoria, B.C.
Contact Janice Moshenko, CPE Office, 800-663-0348, ext. 2
More info www.ubcpharmacy.org/cpe/programs/live.html
- Event** B.C. Pharmacy Conference
Date Thursday, Friday, Saturday, October 30 - November 1, 2003
Location Penticton Lakeside Resort, Penticton
Contact Mary McClelland, BCPhA, mary.mcclelland@bcpharmacy.ca
- Event** UBC Oncology Conference
Date Saturday, November 1, 2003
Location Forestry Sciences Building, UBC campus
Topics Lung cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, colorectal cancer,
complementary and alternative therapies, pain management, nausea
and vomiting, constipation and diarrhea, mucositis, febrile neutropenia
- Contact** Janice Moshenko, CPE Office, 800-663-0348, ext. 2
More info www.ubcpharmacy.org/cpe/programs/live.html
- Event** CSHP B.C. Branch – Annual Meeting
Date Thursday, Friday, November 21-22, 2003
Location Sheraton Wall Centre, Vancouver
Contact Janice Yeung, Programs Chairperson, 604-875-4111, ext. 63761
- Event** Volunteer Appreciation Day (by invitation only)
Date Thursday, November 27, 2003
Location Vancouver Aquarium
Contact Samantha Lam, 800-663-1940, ext. 220
- Event** Council Meeting
Date Friday, November 28, 2003
Location College office, Vancouver
Contact Samantha Lam, 800-663-1940, ext. 220
- Event** College Annual General Meeting
Date Saturday, November 29, 2003
9:30-11:30 am Professional development sessions (see page 2 for details)
Noon - 1 pm Hosted lunch
1-4 pm Annual General Meeting
- Location** Tynehead Ballroom, Sheraton Guildford Hotel
15269-104th Ave. Surrey, B.C.
- Contact** Samantha Lam, 800-663-1940, ext. 220



Printed on Recycled Paper

The Bulletin newsletter provides important College and pharmacy practice information. All pharmacists are expected to be aware of these matters. Licensed pharmacies must have the last three years of Bulletin issues on file as per reference library requirements.

Medical marijuana

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Brenda Osmond

medical marijuana. This would replace the temporary plan to deliver marijuana directly to physicians' offices.

"This could lead to medical marijuana being dispensed through community pharmacies, rather than being restricted to a physician's office," says Deputy Registrar Brenda Osmond.

Results of this meeting were not available at the time of writing. Please check the College web site, www.bcpharmacists.org for the latest update.

For more information, please contact Deputy Registrar Brenda Osmond at the College, email: brenda.osmond@bcpharmacists.org.

BULLETIN

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Your questions and comments about this Bulletin are welcome and may be forwarded to the Registrar.