

TechTalk

The Official Source of Information on the Regulation of Pharmacy Technicians in BC

USEFUL LINKS

College of Pharmacists of BC
www.bcpharmacists.org

Pharmacy Technician Bridging Program
www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/cppd

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada
www.pebc.ca/PharmacyTechnicians

Canadian Council for Accreditation
of Pharmacy Programs
www.ccapp-accredit.ca

BRIDGING PROGRAM – APPLICATION DEADLINE AUGUST 28, 2011

For technicians pursuing the 'Current Technicians' path, the application deadline for the Fall sessions of the in-class and online Bridging Program modules (Pharmacology, Professional Practice, Product Preparation and Drug Distribution) as well as for PLAR challenge exams (available for all modules except Professional Practice) is August 28, 2011.

For more information including a complete schedule and registration information, visit

www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/cppd.

Pharmacy Technicians are Required to Obtain Liability Insurance

As per the *Health Professions Act (HPA) Bylaw 81*, it is the responsibility of each registered pharmacy technicians, just as it is for each registered pharmacist, to carry liability insurance of not less than \$2,000,000 that meets specific criteria and insures against liability arising from an error, omission or negligent act. The College's *Professional Practice Policy #60 (PPP-60) – Professional Liability Insurance* further specifies that the professional liability insurance coverage must meet the following criteria:

- The policy provides occurrence-based coverage or claims made coverage with an extended reporting period of at least three years, and
- If not issued in the registrant's name, the group policy covers the registrant as an individual.

Although not an endorsement or validation of their individual policy it is the understanding of the College that the following organizations are currently offering professional liability insurance for pharmacy technicians: Canadian Association of Pharmacy Technicians (CAPT) and BC Pharmacy Association (BCPhA).

NOTE: It is the responsibility of registrants, not the College, to ensure that their policy meets the required criteria outlined above.

Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC) Schedule

For complete details regarding any of these PEBC exams, including information on how to apply, visit www.pebc.ca/Pharmacy Technicians.

EXAMINATION NAME	APPLICATION DEADLINE	EXAMINATION DATE
Summer Qualifying Exam	closed (MCQ) closed (OSPE)	Sat, Sept 10, 2011 Sun, Sept 11, 2011
Fall Evaluating Exam	closed	Sat, Oct 1, 2011
Winter Qualifying Exam	Mon, Dec 19, 2011 (OSPE) Mon, Dec 19, 2011 (MCQ)	Sat, March 24, 2012 Sun, March 25, 2012
Spring Evaluating Exam	Mon, Jan. 16, 2012	Sun, Apr 15, 2012
Summer Qualifying Exam	Fri, June 15, 2012 (MCQ) Fri, June 15, 2012 (OSPE)	Sat, Sept 8, 2012 Sun, Sept 9, 2012
Fall Evaluating Exam	Tues, July 3, 2012	Sat, Sept 29, 2012



Published by the
College of Pharmacists of BC

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BC's First Pharmacy Technician Registrants Recognized

On June 17, 2011 the College Board and staff, along with invited guests from the Ministry of Health, the BC Pharmacy Association and UBC's Continuing Pharmacy Professional Development division, officially welcomed, at their regularly scheduled Board meeting, the inaugural group of pharmacy technician registrants from throughout British Columbia.

Acknowledging the first 21 technicians, 14 of whom were in attendance at the event, as pioneers, Board Chair Randy Konrad congratulated the group on their achievement and reminded them of the importance and significance of their new role: *"As an integral member of the healthcare team, like all regulated healthcare professionals, you must remain committed to upholding your legal and ethical obligation to protect and promote the health and well-being of your patients."*

Encouraging these new registrants to practice to the full extent of their scope and competence, College Registrar Marshall Moleschi added: *"Your ability to take responsibility for the technical aspects of product preparation will allow pharmacists to practice to their full scope*

in the provision of clinical services which will have a net benefit of enhancing health outcomes for patients."

The Honourable Michael de Jong, Minister of Health, in his personal message and greeting, read by Bob Nakagawa, Assistant Deputy Minister, summarized by stating: *"Regulated pharmacy technicians will play a critical role in the healthcare system, taking on increased responsibility in the workplace and providing pharmacists with more time to assess and counsel patients and help them best manage and understand their drug therapies."*

The regulation of pharmacy technicians, is on a voluntary basis and is expected to progress slowly as technicians who choose to, complete the comprehensive

educational requirements of the program. It is anticipated that the College may register up to 100 pharmacy technician registrants before the end of this calendar year with 100 to 200 more next year.

The College wishes to extend its sincere congratulations to the inaugural group of pharmacy technician registrants. Your dedication to becoming a healthcare professional demonstrates your commitment to protect and promote the health and well-being of your patients as well as to the profession of pharmacy as a whole.

Photo (left): Back row, from left to right: Randy Konrad (Board Chair), Phillip Dunn, Onnolee Osbourne, Cheryl Knight, Hua Ma, Jody Penner, Edeana Vivian, Sorell Wellon, Roberta Wiebe, Marshall Moleschi (Registrar), Bob Nakagawa (Assistant Deputy Minister) Front row, from left to right: Sukhjit Bains, Darlene Bonnier, Ricky Brar, Bonnie M. Hill, Yonette Harrod, Michael Higashi





What does this accomplishment mean to you?

When asked, "what this accomplishment means most?", the below pharmacy technicians responded:



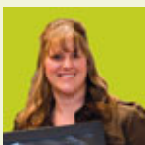
"It means that I have achieved my goal of becoming fully recognized as an integral part of the pharmacy discipline."

– Yonette Harrod



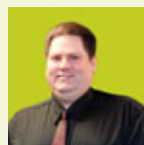
"This has been a personal goal since there were first talks of regulation; to have finally reached the end is an indescribable, wonderful feeling."

– Roberta Wiebe



"That I have the knowledge and skill set to be a valued member of the healthcare team."

– Edeana Vivian



"It makes me feel like a healthcare professional and has given me the incentive to continue my education in the health field as I intend to become a Certified Diabetes Educator next Spring."

– Phillip Dunn

STRUCTURED PRACTICAL TRAINING – AVAILABLE THIS FALL

Structured Practical Training (SPT) is required for those technicians pursuing the 'Future Technicians' path once they have graduated from a CCAPP accredited program and have pre-registered with the College of Pharmacists of BC. SPT, administered in partnership with UBC's Structured Practice Education Program (SPEP), is a supervised competency based training period within a pharmacy that includes regular assessment by a pharmacist or another regulated pharmacy technician. The purpose of the SPT component is to provide technicians with the opportunity to practice their skill-set in a supervised practical environment prior to becoming regulated. SPT will be available this Fall, please visit the College website (*Key Initiatives/Pharmacy Technician Regulation*) regularly for the most current information.

Questions?

Any questions regarding pharmacy technician regulation in BC should be directed by email to:
pharmacytech@bcpharmacists.org

Jurisprudence Examination (JE)

The JE, which is mandatory for all technicians pursuing regulation, is designed to test technicians knowledge on ethics and legislation contained in federal and provincial acts, their regulations, bylaws and published College policies and guidelines that pertain to pharmacy operations and registrant responsibilities in the practice of pharmacy. Important information regarding the JE including how to apply, exam dates, the exam format and blueprint, information on scoring and results and much more can be found in the *Jurisprudence Examination (JE) Information Guide* available on the College website.

NOTE: the mandatory JE is administered as a separate exam for technicians on the 'Future Technicians' path but is included in the Professional Practice bridging module for technicians on the 'Current Technicians' path.

6th Annual Pharmacy Technician Conference — Save the Date!

The 6th Annual Pharmacy Technician Conference will be held on October 7th & 8th, 2011 at the River Rock Casino Resort, in Richmond, British Columbia. This year's event brings a great opportunity to learn about the new and exciting technician initiatives and the challenges that are being faced. Doreen Leong, Director of Registration and Special Projects, will be representing the College of Pharmacists of BC and giving a presentation on the current status of regulation in this province. This is a great opportunity to expand networking and open discussions to share your questions and concerns about the many hot topics such as regulation for pharmacy technicians and the new scope of practice. Visit www.ptsbc.ca for more information and to register for this educational event.

