



College of Pharmacists  
of British Columbia

## DRUG PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACY

APRIL 2022

This document has two lists: **Professional Service Area Items (Schedule II)** and **Professional Products Area Items (Schedule III)**. Within each list, drugs are categorized according to their common indications for use. These lists are meant to be used as a resource and are not exhaustive. The Drug Schedules Regulation is available on the [College website](#).

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AREA ITEMS (SCHEDULE II)

Below are drugs listed in **Schedule II** of the [Drug Schedules Regulation](#) to the *Pharmacists, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act*. Schedule II drugs may be sold by a pharmacist on a non-prescription basis and which must be retained within the Professional Service Area of the pharmacy where there is no public access and no opportunity for patient self-selection.

<p><b><u>ALLERGY, COUGH &amp; COLD PREPARATIONS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Codeine (exempted products: <math>\leq 8\text{mg/solid unit OR } \leq 20\text{mg/30mL}</math>)</li><li>Cyproheptadine</li><li>Fluticasone 50mcg/spray (labelled for use in <math>\geq 18</math> years old) AND <math>&gt;360</math> metered sprays/package</li><li>Pseudoephedrine (single entity)</li><li>Triamcinolone acetonide 55mcg/spray (labelled for use in <math>\geq 12</math> years old) AND <math>&gt;120</math> metered sprays/package</li><li>Xylometazoline hydrochloride (for pediatric use)</li></ul> <p><b><u>ANALGESICS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Acetaminophen &amp; ibuprofen, oral fixed-dose combinations (containing <math>&gt;20,000\text{mg acet or } &gt;6,000\text{mg ibuprofen per package}</math>)</li><li>ASA <math>\leq 80\text{mg}</math> and <math>\leq 24\text{'s}</math></li><li>ASA PR <math>\leq 150\text{mg}</math></li><li>Codeine (exempted products: <math>\leq 8\text{mg/solid unit OR } \leq 20\text{mg/30mL}</math>)</li><li>Diclofenac diethylamine, single ingredient <math>&gt;1.16\%</math> to <math>\leq 2.32\%</math> (topical use on skin for <math>\leq 7</math> days) AND <math>&gt;2.6\text{g}</math> of diclofenac diethylamine per package</li></ul> <p><b><u>ANTIEMETICS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dimenhydrinate (for parenteral use)</li><li>Diphenhydramine (for parenteral use)</li><li>Promethazine</li></ul>	<p><b><u>ANTI-PARASITICS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Permethrin</li><li>Pyrantel</li><li>Piperonyl butoxide</li></ul> <p><b><u>FEMINE PRODUCTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Levonorgestrel <math>\leq 1.5\text{mg}</math> (when <b>NOT</b> labelled to be taken as a single dose of <math>1.5\text{mg}</math>, <b>NOT</b> labelled for emergency contraception, <math>&gt;1</math> tab/package)</li></ul> <p><b><u>GI: ACID CONTROLLERS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Omeprazole 20mg daily dose x 14 days (max 280mg omeprazole per package <b>AND</b> indicated for heartburn)</li></ul> <p><b><u>GI: ANTIDIARRHEAL</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Loperamide (in products marketed for pediatric use <math>&lt;12</math> years old)</li></ul> <p><b><u>GI: LAXATIVES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sodium picosulfate for oral purgatives</li></ul> <p><b><u>SKIN PRODUCTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Diphenhydramine <math>&gt;2\%</math> (for topical use)</li><li>Lidocaine (for topical use on mucous membranes)</li><li>Urea <math>&gt;25\%</math></li></ul>
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## PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS AREA ITEMS (SCHEDULE III)

Below are drugs listed in **Schedule III** of the [Drug Schedules Regulation](#) to *The Pharmacists, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act*. Schedule III drugs may be sold by a pharmacist to any person from the self-selection Professional Products Area of a licensed pharmacy.

<p><b><u>ALLERGY, COUGH AND COLD PREPARATIONS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cetirizine (<math>\leq 10\text{mg}</math> for pediatric use <math>&lt; 12</math> years old)</li><li>• Desloratidine (pediatric use <math>&lt; 12</math> years old)</li><li>• Dexbrompheniramine</li><li>• Diphenhydramine</li><li>• Dextromethorphan when DM base <math>&gt; 300\text{mg}/\text{pack}</math> or DM Hydrobromide <math>&gt; 409.3\text{mg}/\text{pack}</math></li><li>• Doxylamine</li><li>• Fluticasone <math>50\text{mcg}/\text{spray}</math> (labelled for use in <math>\geq 18</math> years old) AND <math>\leq 360</math> metered sprays/package</li><li>• Loratidine (pediatric use <math>&lt; 12</math> years old)</li><li>• Pseudoephedrine (combination products)</li><li>• Sodium cromoglycate (<math>\leq 2\%</math> for ophthalmic OR intranasal use)</li><li>• Triamcinolone aqueous nasal spray <math>55\text{mcg}/\text{spray}</math> (label for use in <math>\geq 12</math> years old) AND <math>\leq 120</math> metered spray per package</li></ul> <p><b><u>ANALGESICS &amp; MUSCLE RELAXANTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acetaminophen in sustained release formulation: <math>&gt; 650\text{mg}/\text{unit}</math> or <math>&gt; 50</math> units/package</li><li>• Acetaminophen &amp; ibuprofen, oral fixed-dose combinations (containing <math>\leq 20,000\text{mg}</math> acetaminophen or <math>\leq 6,000\text{mg}</math> ibuprofen per package)</li><li>• ASA PO <math>\geq 650\text{mg}</math></li><li>• ASA PO <math>81\text{mg}</math> (adult use)</li><li>• ASA PR <math>&gt; 150\text{mg}</math></li><li>• Chlorzoxazone</li><li>• Diclofenac diethylamine, single ingredient <math>&gt; 1.16\%</math> to <math>\leq 2.32\%</math> (topical use on skin for <math>\leq 7</math> days) AND max <math>2.6\text{g}</math> of diclofenac diethylamine per package</li><li>• Diphenhydramine</li><li>• Ibuprofen <math>\leq 400\text{mg}/\text{unit}</math> with <math>&gt; 18000\text{mg}/\text{package}</math></li><li>• Ibuprofen (modified-release dosage form <math>\leq 600\text{mg}/\text{unit}</math>)</li><li>• Methocarbamol</li><li>• Orphenadrine citrate</li></ul> <p><b><u>EYE AND EAR PREPARATIONS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Antipyrine (for otic use)</li><li>• Bacitracin (for ophthalmic use)</li><li>• Gramicidin (for ophthalmic use)</li><li>• Polymyxin (for ophthalmic use)</li><li>• Sodium cromoglycate (<math>\leq 2\%</math> for ophthalmic use)</li></ul>	<p><b><u>FEMINE PRODUCTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clotrimazole (for intra-vaginal use)</li><li>• Fluconazole (<math>150\text{mg}</math> x1 dose)</li><li>• Levonorgestrel <math>1.5\text{mg}</math> when labelled to be taken as a single dose of <math>1.5\text{mg}</math> AND for emergency contraception AND max 1 tab/package</li><li>• Miconazole (for vaginal use)</li></ul> <p><b><u>GI: ACID CONTROLLERS (INDICATED FOR TREATMENT OF HEARTBURN)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cimetidine <math>\leq 100\text{mg}/\text{unit}</math></li><li>• Famotidine <math>\leq 20\text{mg}/\text{unit}</math> when <math>&gt; 600\text{mg}/\text{package}</math></li><li>• Ranitidine <math>\leq 150\text{mg}</math> when <math>&gt; 4500\text{mg}/\text{package}</math></li><li>• Esomeprazole <math>20\text{mg}</math> daily dose x 14 days (max <math>280\text{mg}</math> esomeprazole per package)</li></ul> <p><b><u>GI: ANTINAUSEANTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dimenhydrinate (for oral or rectal use)</li></ul> <p><b><u>GI: HEMORRHOID PREPARATIONS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pramoxine (for topical use on mucous membranes)</li></ul> <p><b><u>GI: LAXATIVES</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bisacodyl PO <math>\geq 5\text{mg}/\text{unit}</math> (containing <math>\geq 105\text{mg}</math> per package) OR PR <math>\geq 10\text{mg}/\text{unit}</math> (containing <math>\geq 50\text{mg}</math> bisacodyl per package)</li><li>• Lactulose</li></ul> <p><b><u>HAIR CARE</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dimeticone <math>100</math> cSt solution <math>50\%</math> w/w (topical use for head lice)</li></ul> <p><b><u>ORAL PRODUCTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tetracaine (for topical use on mucous membranes)</li></ul> <p><b><u>SKIN PRODUCTS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diphenhydramine <math>\leq 2\%</math> for topical use when sold in containers of <math>&gt; 300\text{mg}</math> diphenhydramine HCl</li><li>• Lidocaine &amp; Prilocaine</li><li>• Nystatin (topical)</li></ul> <p><b><u>SLEEPING AIDS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Diphenhydramine</li></ul>
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## TIPS #1: PHARMACEUTICAL CALCULATIONS

### EXAMPLE 1:

*I have a product containing 30 tabs of ranitidine 150mg. What schedule is it?*

The total amount of ranitidine in this product is: 30 tabs x 150mg/tab = 4500mg. Therefore, it is an *unscheduled* product as it does not contain *more* than 4500mg of ranitidine per package size. However, if the product contains more than 30 tabs of ranitidine 150mg, it will be a *schedule 3* product.

### EXAMPLE 2:

*I have a topical product containing diclofenac diethylamine 2.32% in a variety of sizes. They are labelled for use on the skin for not more than 7 days. How can I tell if they are schedule 2 or schedule 3?*

For a topical product containing 2.32% of diclofenac diethylamine (dd), its drug schedule depends on the total amount of dd contained in the package size. It is schedule 2 if it contains >2.6g dd per package size, whereas it is schedule 3 if it contains ≤2.6g dd per package size.

$$\frac{2.32 \text{ g}}{100 \text{ g}} = \frac{2.6 \text{ g}}{x \text{ g}}$$
$$x = 112.07 \text{ g}$$

Therefore, a product containing 2.32% of dd is *Schedule 2* product when the package size is *greater* than 112g, whereas it is *schedule 3* when the package size is *less than or equal to* 112g.

*What about a 150g tube of diclofenac diethylamine 1.16% gel?*

It is an *unscheduled* product. It is only *schedule 2 or 3* when it contains *greater* than 1.16% of dd.

### EXAMPLE 3:

*I have a topical product containing 2% w/v diphenhydramine HCl in a 59mL tube. What schedule is it?*

$$\frac{2 \text{ g}}{100 \text{ mL}} = \frac{x \text{ g}}{59 \text{ mL}}$$
$$x = 1.18 \text{ g}$$

Therefore, it is a *Schedule 3* product as it contains *more* than 300mg of diphenhydramine HCl.

## TIPS #2: READING DRUG SCHEDULES

### EXAMPLE 1:

*Is there a quick way to determine if a typical cough and cold product for adults (codeine-free) should be placed in the lock and leave section (schedule 3)?*

Check if the product has an antihistamine.

1) If yes, check what antihistamine it has:

- if it is any of the 3D's: dexbrompheniramine, diphenhydramine, doxylamine → **Lock and Leave (Schedule 3)**
- if it is: brompheniramine, chlorpheniramine, pheniramine → *Check the total amount of DM in the entire package. See 2a and 2b below.*
- if not listed above → *check the drug schedule*

2) If no, look at the total amount of DM in package size.

- If > 300mg/package → **Lock and Leave (Schedule 3)**
- If ≤ 300mg/package → **Unscheduled**