

Notice from the Executive Officer
November 17, 2008

Re: MedsCheck™ Consult Pilot Project – An expansion to the MedsCheck™ program

As a result of conducting the MedsCheck™ Annual or MedsCheck™ Follow-Up medication review many pharmacists are identifying drug related problems (DRP) and medication-related issues that require the collaboration with the patient's prescriber; hence the reason we are expanding to the **MedsCheck™ Consult** program.

Whereas the MedsCheck™ Annual and MedsCheck™ Follow-Up medication review program focused on the relationship between the pharmacist and the patient or caregiver, the MedsCheck™ Consult is a program that promotes collaboration and follow-up between the pharmacist, patient and patient's prescriber towards the goal of optimizing a patient's drug therapy.

The main objectives of the MedsCheck™ Consult are to promote healthier patient outcomes; and improve and optimize drug therapy by promoting inter-professional collaboration in patient care.

How does the MedsCheck™ Consult work?

The MedsCheck™ Consult builds on the MedsCheck™ medication review process. Should a pharmacist identify a DRP, he/she will communicate with the patient's prescriber using a standardized form and outline the DRP or medication concern including the nature of the drug related problem, the desired outcome, a recommended option(s) to the physician and possible follow-up action.

The physician and pharmacist, together, agree on the collaborative action that is best for the patient. The standardized form, signed and dated by both practitioners is returned to the pharmacist as the agreement to proceed with one of the following responses: no further action required; a change to a patient's medication therapy; or a request by the prescriber that additional information or further analysis of the possible recommended option be considered.

PILOT implementation of MedsCheck™ Consult program

The MedsCheck™ Consult program will be piloted to identify strengths and weaknesses of the program and to test the use of the standardized form that will be required for purposes of documentation and communication of the process.

The MedsCheck™ Consult pilot study will include a minimum of 30 pharmacy practice sites from across the province including urban, rural and remote; and from different pharmacy practice sites such as independent owner, chain, banner, mass merchandiser, medical clinic pharmacy, family health team, hospital out-patient and walk-in clinic operations.

Interested pharmacists will receive an honourarium for their participation in the pilot study and are asked to complete an application that includes a commitment to approximately 3 months of activity and one month of follow-up communication and assessment with the ministry. In selecting pharmacists, inherently, the physicians in their vicinity will also be selected and included in the plans.

The honourarium for pharmacies is established as \$500.00 per month of 3 months pilot study activity.

For more information on the MedsCheck™ Consult program please refer to: www.medscheck.ca

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