



INFORMATION ON BECOMING A PHARMACIST IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Jurisprudence Examination

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General Information

The Jurisprudence Examination is based on legislation contained in federal and provincial acts, their regulations, bylaws and published College policies and guidelines that pertain to pharmacy operations and pharmacists' 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.

The examination is based on the information contained in the College's *BC Pharmacy Practice Manual*:

1. Federal legislation

- a. Food and Drugs Act Regulations (<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/F-27/C.R.C.-c.870/>).
The relevant extracts include:
 - *PART C: DRUGS* – sections C.01.041 - C.01.049.
 - *PART E: CYCLAMATE AND SACCHARIN SWEETENERS* – sections E.01.001 - E.01.005.
 - *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 supplied for the Jurisprudence Examination)
 - SCHEDULE F
- b. Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, Schedule and Regulations (<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/C-38.8/index.html>). The relevant extracts include:
 - i. Narcotic Control Regulations (<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/C-38.8/C.R.C.-c.1041/index.html>)
 - Interpretation – section 2
 - Pharmacists – section 30 - 52



- Practitioners – section 53 - 54
- Hospitals – section 63 - 65
- General – section 70 - 71
- Narcotic Drug Schedules (these drug schedules will be supplied for the Jurisprudence Examination)

ii. Benzodiazepines and other Targeted Substances Extracts
(<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/C-38.8/SOR-2000-217/index.html>)

- Section 2(1) – 2(3), 3(a), 3(b)(i-ii), 5 - 7
- Part 2 - Pharmacists – section 48 - 57
- Part 4 - Hospital – section 63 - 67
- Schedule I PART 1 and PART 2 (this will be included in the drug schedules supplied for the Jurisprudence Examination)

2. Provincial legislation

- a. The Health Professions Act (HPA), the Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act (PODS Act), the Bylaws of the College of Pharmacists of B.C. made pursuant to these Acts, drug schedules and drug schedule definitions.
- b. Code of ethics – practice oriented questions relating to the code of ethics. (Note: you do not need to memorize the code of ethics).
- c. *Framework of Professional Practice (FPP)* – practice oriented questions relating to the *FPP*. (Note: you do not need to memorize the *FPP*).
- d. Professional Practice Policies (on the College website at: http://www.bcparmacists.org/library/A-About_Us/A-2_Governance/5003-PGP-PPP.pdf) and the Amendment to the Professional Practice Policy #58 (on the College website at: http://www.bcparmacists.org/library/D-Legislation_Standards/D-2_Provincial_Legislation/PPP58_AmendmentOrientationGuide.pdf)
- e. Controlled Prescription Program.
- f. Prescription Regulations Chart.
- g. *ReadLinks* excerpts and the most recent legislation information from the *ReadLinks* and College mailings.
- h. Facsimile transmission of prescriptions (*HPA Bylaws, Community Pharmacy Standards of Practice, Section 6*)
- i. Responsibilities of pharmacy managers (*PODSA Bylaws, Section 2*).
- j. Pharmacist's responsibilities and pharmacy assistant's functions (*HPA Bylaws, Community Pharmacy Standards of Practice, Section 4*).
- k. Operation without a pharmacist (*PODSA Bylaws, Section 11*).
- l. All information related to pharmacy practice.

Applicants must ensure they are reviewing the most current legislation and policies. For current legislation information, please visit the College website at www.bcparmacists.org



Eligibility/Application Procedure

The Jurisprudence Examination may be written at any scheduled sitting by:

- An applicant upon completing their pre-registration or,
- A Student pharmacist after entering their fourth year in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of British Columbia.

The application to pre-register as an applicant, along with all required documentation, must be received at least **20 business days** before the date of the examination.

Exam registration is available online through eServices on the College website. Once applicants are pre-registered, they will receive an eServices ID number which they must use for online registration.

Applicants are encouraged to use the College website as the primary source of information about pharmacy legislation and standards of practice. Pharmacy legislation and practice standards can be found at:

http://www.bcpharmacists.org/resources/bc_pharmacy_practice_manual.php. Those who are unable to access the Internet may purchase a *BC Pharmacy Practice Manual* by obtaining an order form from the College office.

Since there is limited space in each sitting, exam registration will be processed in order of receipt. Should the spaces be filled before the registration deadline, subsequent applicants will be slated for the next sitting of choice.

Applicants will receive confirmation of their examination sitting date by mail approximately 10 business days before the examination.

The fee for each sitting is **\$175 + GST**. Fees are reviewed annually and are effective March 01 of each fiscal year.

Examination Dates

The Jurisprudence Examination is held in Vancouver three times a year in February, May/June and November.

Examination Date	Exam registration Deadline	Results Released
June 10, 2010	May 7, 2010	July 9, 2010

Note: The above dates are tentative and are subject to change.



Out-of-Vancouver Sitting of Examination

Applicants who wish to sit the examination outside of Vancouver must provide a written request to the College and complete the “Application for Outside of Vancouver – Jurisprudence Examination” form (http://www.bcpharmacists.org/library/K-Forms/K-2_Registration/9026-App_JE_Outside_Vancouver.pdf). Applicants must adhere to the Registration Committee Policy-3 for “Out-of-Vancouver Jurisprudence Examination” (http://www.bcpharmacists.org/library/E-Registration_Licensure/E-2_Pharmacist/5098-Reg_Committee_Policy_RCP-3.pdf).

Withdrawal/Refund Policy

Jurisprudence Examination fees are refundable upon written notice provided to the Administrative Assistant – Registration at least 15 business days prior to the examination date. Refunds are subject to a \$50 + GST administration fee. Applicants who do not attend the examination and have not advised the College office in writing, will forfeit their fee. Special consideration may be given for medical reasons (physician’s certificate is required) and bereavement situations that occur less than three weeks before the examination.

Examination Format & Blueprint

The examination is a comprehensive, written examination composed of approximately 150 questions, including multiple choice and true or false. Up to three hours may be taken to complete the examination and fill in the answer sheet. The passing score is around 75%. Applicants will not be issued their scores but will receive a letter indicating if they have met the standard or not met the standard.

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 and procedures published in <i>ReadLinks</i>	45
Food and Drugs Act, Regulations and Schedules, Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, Regulations and Schedules, BC Drug Schedules	40



Multiple Choice

On the answer sheet (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.
- 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 question 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 numbers 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 2 is "B". On the answer sheet, find the answer circles for question 2, and fill the circle containing the letter "B".



Scoring and Results

Each question on the examination is weighted equally. The full examination is weighted by the number of questions according to its significance and scope with respect to legislation.

The pass/fail standard for the Jurisprudence Examination is established for each exam form using a standard setting process. A representative group of pharmacist 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 Jurisprudence Examination.

Applicants will be advised of their examination results by letter, mailed from the College office four weeks after the scheduled examination date. Results will be given on a pass/fail basis only. 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. If an applicant has not successfully completed all registration requirements during this time, they must re-sit and successfully complete the examination prior to registration as a pharmacist.

Appeals Policy

Appeals of examination results will be considered and results reviewed in full by the Registration Committee. Please see Registration Committee Policy-5 for “Appeals Policy” (http://www.bcpharmacists.org/library/E-Registration_Licensure/E-2_Pharmacist/5098-Reg_Committee_Policy_RCP-5.pdf).

Examination Day Process and Security of Materials

Admission and Identification:

1. All applicants must show valid photo-identification, check in all personal belongings and sign the examination book before commencing the examination.
2. In signing the examination book, applicants agree to maintain the confidentiality of all questions contained in the examination paper.
3. 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.
4. Applicants may bring with them a snack packaged in a clear plastic bag.

Applicant Materials/Conduct:

1. During the examination, the only material that may be consulted in answering questions is that provided with the examination paper; no other reference material is permitted.



2. A copy of the drug schedules without the explanatory/descriptive information will be provided. Applicants are responsible for knowing how to use all of the schedules. A copy of the prescription regulations chart will not be provided.
3. Applicants must not bring with them any electronic device including calculators, pagers, cellular phones and/or personal digital assistants (PDAs) such as Blackberry's or Palm Pilots.
4. The examination consists of a specific number of pages; applicants must ensure they have received a complete examination paper.
5. All procedures including filling in answers on the exam answer sheet must be completed within the three hour allotment. It is recommended that applicant fill in the circles on the exam answer sheet as they go through the questions. 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. Ink is not readable by the scanner used to score the examination. 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. Applicants guilty of any of the following or similar dishonest practices shall be immediately dismissed from the examination, and the matter shall be reported to the council:
 - a. Making use of any books, papers or memoranda other than those provided by the College.
 - b. Speaking or communicating with other candidates under any circumstances whatsoever.
 - c. Exposing written papers to the view of other candidates.
8. The plea of accident or forgetfulness shall not be received.
9. Applicants must not mark the drug schedules. Notes must be made on the examination paper only.
10. Smoking is not permitted inside the building.
11. 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 must return the entire examination paper and materials provided (including the drug schedules and exam answer sheets) to the invigilator.
3. Applicants must sign-out upon completion of the examination.



Other Examination Information

1. The Jurisprudence Examination does **not** cover information in the HPA Bylaws, Section 2-60).
2. Schedule F to the Food and Drug Regulations 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 prescriptions which are neither narcotic, controlled or targeted drugs. Part 2 includes drugs which may be sold without a prescription for veterinary purposes.
3. The definition of a practitioner is missing from the Extracts from the Food and Drug Regulations. A practitioner for the prescriptive authority of Schedule F drugs and benzodiazepines includes a person authorized to practice medicine, dentistry, podiatry, and veterinary medicine.
4. The definition of a practitioner under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) (page one of the Extracts from the Narcotic Control Regulations) includes a person authorized to practice medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine and includes any person or class of person prescribed as a practitioner. Podiatrists are allowed to prescribe benzodiazepines and Schedule 1 drugs.
5. The PODS Act definition of a practitioner only applies to those drugs listed in our schedules that are not narcotic, controlled drugs, or those drugs included in the Controlled Prescription Program. Podiatrists may prescribe benzodiazepines but not the other target drugs.
6. The extracts from the Food and Drug Regulations and the extracts from the Narcotic Control Regulations, state that prescriptions and any records must be retained for a period of two years. The PODSA Bylaws, Section 7(1) state that prescriptions and patient records must be retained for three years from the date of the last refill. Our provincial legislation overrides the federal legislation, as it is more stringent. 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.
7. The definition of Control Drugs Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 is best described in the Prescription Regulations Synopsis.
 - Controlled Drug Part 1 = reportable control drugs
 - Controlled Drug Part 2 = non-reportable control drugs
 - Controlled Drug Part 3 = non-reportable anabolic steroids
8. A Schedule F drug that you know 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.
9. A non-prescription drug not listed in Schedule 2 or Schedule 3 of the British Columbia drug schedules, means that it is unscheduled and can be placed outside the 25-foot perimeter of the pharmacy or be sold from non-pharmacy outlets.



10. Frequently asked questions:

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| Targeted drugs: Part 1: | Drugs which may be sold (benzodiazepines and others) |
| Targeted drugs: Part 2: | Drugs which may not be sold since they are illegal to possess |
| Narcotic and controlled drugs: | Narcotic Part 1 = reportable narcotics
Narcotics Part 2 = non-reportable narcotics |

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 pharmacists shall restrict the time span for ongoing prescription authorization to a maximum of two years from the prescribing date (*HPA Bylaws, Community Pharmacy Standards of Practice, Section 9(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.