# Board Highlights



### **Our Vision:**

Better health through excellence in pharmacy.

### **Our Mission:**

The College regulates the pharmacy profession in the public interest. We set and enforce standards and promote best practices for the delivery of pharmacy care in British Columbia.

#### Practice Review Committee Established

The Board established the Practice Review Committee to develop and maintain the Pharmacy Review and the Pharmacy Professionals' Review components of the Practice Review Program (PRP). In addition to making recommendations to the Board on the processes and policies for the program, this new committee will oversee the Pharmacy and Pharmacy Professionals' Review components and in certain cases will recommend any required follow-up or remediation. For more information on the new PRP please see our website at:

#### http://www.bcpharmacists.org/about\_us/key\_initiatives/index/articles/307.php

The Knowledge Assessment Committee will not be reappointed as the Knowledge Assessment will no longer be utilized.

#### Accountability for Pharmacists Supervising Unregulated Staff

Pharmacists who have unregulated staff working under their supervision are reminded that any completed work is ultimately the responsibility of the supervising pharmacist. This is important to remember if pharmacy assistants are using a pharmacist ID to process a prescription on PharmaNet, as the pharmacist is ultimately accountable.

While pharmacy technicians may need to work under a pharmacist ID in PharmaNet pending a change that would create a specific pharmacy technician ID, technicians are accountable to the College for any completed work within their scope, just as a pharmacist is responsible for theirs.

#### **Committees Refreshed and Reappointed**

The College wishes to thank all those who applied for committee positions in the call for volunteers that was sent out earlier this Spring. We received many more applications than were available positions, therefore not every applicant was selected. For a list of committees and those who have been appointed to serve, please visit:

http://www.bcpharmacists.org/about\_us/committees.php

#### **PPP-72 Inquiry and Discipline Publication Policy**

The Board approved PPP-72 Inquiry and Discipline Publication Policy. The College will publish all inquiry and discipline results according to the public notification framework recommended by the Health Professions Regulators of BC (HPRBC). The College worked closely with the HPRBC to develop a

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public notification framework for publishing inquiry and discipline proceedings that is consistent across health disciplines in BC.

#### **PODSA Form Revisions**

The Board passed changes to PODSA Forms 4, 5 and 6. The changes include revisions to contact information, the removal of pharmacist registration, and non-practising pharmacist fees from the pharmacy licensure forms. These changes are now available on the College website for public comment.

#### **Ensuring Board Positions are Filled**

The College was asked to address the potential situation where no nominations are received from a district for a Board election. After an evaluation of best practices amongst Canadian regulators, the Board will maintain its existing nominations policy however there will be a significant communications increase prior to the call for nominations. In the absence of any district nominations being received in the 14 days before nominations close, communications will increase even further.

## \$250,000 to Evaluate the Use of Mobile Technologies in Improving Medication Adherence

The College granted \$250,000 to Mary De Vera, Chair in Medication Adherence, of Empowering Pharmacists in Asthma management through Interactive SMS (EmPhAsIS). The grant will fund an evaluation of mobile health (mHealth) technologies in improving medication adherence. This evaluation will be a pragmatic, community-based randomized controlled trial of an adherence intervention based on text messaging centred on community pharmacists for asthma management.

The College's funding is made possible by a larger grant to the College by the Ministry of Health to support patient safety through evidence-based research of pharmaceutical services delivery in the province.