

New Brunswick College of Pharmacists Ordre des pharmaciens du Nouveau-Brunswick

Governing the practice of pharmacy for a healthier New Brunswick Régir l'exercice de la pharmacie pour un Nouveau-Brunswick en meilleure santé

Publication of Complaint Decision

Title of Incident

Failing to maintain First Aid/CPR certification

Incident Description

A complaint was filed by the Registrar of the New Brunswick College of Pharmacists (the College) against a pharmacist (the respondent) on the Direct Client Care Register for failing to maintain current First Aid/CPR certification for a period of approximately three months and for also administering injections without proper authorization during that time.

Summary of Findings

- The respondent accepted responsibility for their actions when contacted by the College.
- No known harm came to any patients as a result of this lapse.
- The lapse was not associated with willful misconduct or intentional evasion of College requirements.

Analysis

This lapse is nonetheless a failure to adhere to the Regulations of the New Brunswick College of Pharmacists, in particular:

PART XII - REGISTRATION

12.1 All applicants for registration must:

(f) supply:

(iii) evidence of current First Aid/CPR registration, if registering for direct client care practice. (2015)

Annual renewal

16.2 Every member (pharmacist, certified dispenser, and pharmacy technician) shall, no later than November 30 in each year:

(f) certify that he or she:

iii) for registration on a Direct Client Care register:

(B) has current First Aid/CPR registration.(2015)

PART XXII - ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS

22.3(1) A pharmacist who meets the requirements of the Administration of Injections Policy may administer a drug, biological or blood product:

...provided the pharmacist has current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), and first aid, training from a recognized source and satisfies the requirements of section 22.1. (2016)



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As such the College considers this matter a serious infraction.

Orders

The respondent agreed to:

- Certify in writing, to reading the Code of Ethics, the Standards of Practice (NAPRA), the Act Respecting the New Brunswick College of Pharmacists and the Regulations of the New Brunswick College of Pharmacists
- Pay a penalty of \$1000 within 30 days
- Pay a portion of the costs of the investigation and complaint process in the fixed amount of \$500
- Agree not to be permitted to serve as pharmacy manager or preceptor for a period of one year
- Provide written acknowledgement of wrongdoing
- Account will be retained in the member file with the College for a period of one year.
- The matter will be disclosed on any requests for letters of standing during that time period
- Have an anonymous account of this complaint published on the College website for a period of two years and that it appear once in an update to the members of the College

Messages for Pharmacy Professionals

- Allowing First Aid and CPR certification to lapse essentially means the professional license has lapsed. This is a serious situation that has potential implications to emergent patient care, trust in the profession, as well as professional insurance coverage
- Certification in First Aid and CPR is mandatory for licensure irrespective of whether the Member includes administration of injections in their practice
- Members are advised to establish a system to ensure First Aid and CPR certification is renewed in a timely manner
- Infractions may impact on a member's role-modeling opportunities as manager and/or preceptor of learners

Posted February 15 2018

For Removal February 14 2020