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2005 /2006 Annual Practising Forms and Certificates

Enclosed with this Newsletter is your 2005/2006 Annual Practising Certificate renewal form. This form is to be completed and returned with payment to the Pharmacy Council of New Zealand **no later than** 31 March 2005.

All registered pharmacists must complete this form.

If you wish to remain registered with the Pharmacy Council and practise as a pharmacist you must hold an Annual Practising Certificate (APC). If you do not intend to practise as a pharmacist you can remain registered with the Pharmacy Council on the non-practising register and will not require an APC, however, you must still return the form with the appropriate payment. Remember that the fees for 2005/2006 are for the 15 month period from 1 Jan 2005-31 March 2006.

If you have any queries about the form, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Note: If you are currently practising as a pharmacist overseas and thinking of returning to practise as a pharmacist in New Zealand please ensure that you arrange for a Letter of Good Standing to be forwarded to the Pharmacy Council of NZ from each country/state where you practised **before** you leave.

This letter must be dated within 6 months of the date you intend to apply for an Annual Practising Certificate (APC) in New Zealand. **Your application for an APC cannot be processed until this is received.**

Your "new look" 2005 Annual Practising Certificate (APC)

Because of new requirements in the HPCA Act, the Council will be sending a "new look" paper Annual Practising Certificate (APC) to replace the old plastic card previously issued by the Pharmaceutical Society.

Which certificate should I display in my pharmacy?

It is no longer a **legal requirement** to display your registration certificate, as this does not inform the public that you are competent to practise. Your APC is evidence that you are able to practise as a pharmacist, as opposed to just being registered.

The new Act does not spell out that you have to display your APC, but the Council suggests that to help the public recognise you as a registered practising pharmacist you either continue to display your registration certificate as before as well as your current APC, or have your APC displayed or available to show to members of the public.

Once you have submitted your application and the required fee, you are regarded as holding an APC from the date the Council receives the application until the date it is issued, or you are notified by the Registrar that it will not be issued. The APC is small (1/3 of an A4 page) and will come attached to your receipt from the Pharmacy Council.

Register Information Available to the Public

The Register is available to the public to search on our website www.pharmacycouncil.org.nz in the 'Public' section under 'Register Search'. It lists the name, district, city, qualifications, scope of practice, practising details and conditions of pharmacists and intern pharmacists. The qualification listed will be your initial qualification for registration as a pharmacist. As this field is not complete for all pharmacists, the information you supply on the APC form will be added to this register in 2005. Post-graduate qualifications will not appear on the public register at this stage.

What address information is available to the public?

Following the November 2004 newsletter, the Council has received considerable feedback from pharmacists concerned about the publication of their addresses on the public register. Unlike the Pharmacy Act, the HPCA Act does not require addresses to be published.

The Council has listened to this feedback, and in light of these concerns has decided that pharmacist **address information will not be made available to the public nor to the Ministry of Health for the Health Practitioner Index (HPI)**. This is re-iterated in the Annual Practising Certificate (APC) application form in this mailing. The public Register on the website only indicates the district and city of practitioners.



Changes to the Reciprocal Registration Agreement with the United Kingdom

As many pharmacists are aware, in October 2003 the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain announced they were intending to cancel the reciprocal registration agreement with New Zealand and Australia. The Royal Society had not at that point decided on the details of an alternative route for registration for New Zealand pharmacists.

In November 2004 Eleanor Hawthorn and Bronwyn Clark from the Pharmacy Council, along with their Australian counterparts, met with Ann Lewis, the Secretary and Registrar of the Royal Society to discuss the new registration routes. The expectation is that changes would occur in mid 2006.

The current proposal from the Royal Society is:

- All registered pharmacists from outside the European Union who wish to register in the UK will be treated under the same criteria, regardless of where they have been practising.
- Pharmacists will be required to undertake assessment and training in the overseas pharmacist course at either Aston or Sunderland Universities, which currently conduct year-long programmes. On completion of the course, pharmacists must then successfully complete the 52 week preregistration programme.

This proposed route would take two years. While this is still a proposal, the Pharmacy Council has asked the Royal Society to consider other options, including accreditation of New Zealand degrees and recognition of our preregistration programme, in an effort to reduce this process. We will keep you informed of progress.

If you are planning to work as a pharmacist overseas, you will need a Certificate of Identity. Please see our website for details or contact Maree Dawson at m.dawson@pharmacycouncil.org.nz



Notification of Risk of Harm of a Pharmacist

The HPCA Act 2003 specifically provides for the reporting to the Council of situations where concerns are raised about the competence of a pharmacist and the safety of a pharmacist's practice. In November 2004 the Pharmacy Council put in place a policy as a guide for the profession as to what may give rise to a valid concern about the risk that another pharmacist may pose to the public.

Notification of a belief of risk of harm can be received from another pharmacist or health practitioner, a health consumer, an employer, the Health and Disability Commissioner or the Director of Proceedings or as a result of a Professional Conduct Committee recommendation or a competency review.

Council has set the following guidelines for pharmacists and others to use to determine when they should notify the Council of situations involving the practice of a pharmacist posing a risk of harm:

- A serious event that is a significant departure from accepted standards,
- Pattern of conduct over a period of time that is below the required standard of competence,
- Criminal offending,
- Professional isolation with declining standards,
- Recognised poor performance where local intervention has failed.

When the Council receives such information, it will assess the situation and determine if a risk of harm exists. If so, it must give the following persons written notice of the circumstances giving rise to the belief that a risk of harm exists:

- The Accident Compensation Corporation,
- The Director-General of Health,
- The Health and Disability Commissioner,
- The employer of the pharmacist,
- The pharmacist concerned.

Notice may also be given to those working with the pharmacist.

The Council will then assess the practice of the pharmacist, which could include a competence review. It may also order an interim suspension of the practising certificate of the pharmacist, or limit the practice pending a review, or if the concerns relate to matters of ethics or misconduct then refer the matter to a Professional Conduct Committee.

Information now available on website

Information for both the public and pharmacists is now available on our website. Check this site regularly for information on registration, returning to the register, returning to practise, annual practising certificates, newsletters, media releases, etc.

www.pharmacycouncil.org.nz

❖ New Pharmacy Council protocol for sale of Pharmacist Only Medicines for Chronic Conditions (POMCC)

At the Pharmacy Council's November meeting a new protocol for the sale of Pharmacist Only Medicines for Chronic Conditions (POMCC) was passed.

The Pharmacy Council of NZ Code of Ethics Obligation 1.2 states: Where the Pharmacy Council has prescribed a protocol for the sale or supply of a medicine or a group of medicines, the pharmacist must comply with the protocol.

The development of the protocol was brought about by the submission to the Medicines Classification Committee for the reclassification of orlistat (Xenical®) to Pharmacist Only Medicine. (It is not known at the time of writing whether orlistat has been approved for reclassification, and there will be 28-day period after this notification before it is gazetted).

Orlistat, if reclassified, will be the first prescription medicine for a chronic condition to be reclassified for sale by pharmacists in New Zealand. The new protocol will require pharmacists to adopt a case management approach which includes an initial face-to-face consultation with the patient, and detailed documentation and follow-up with repeat face-to-face consultations as dictated by best practice. Pharmacists will be required to maintain a record of the sale of POMCC in the patient's own file so that it may be readily accessed and updated when necessary. The protocol states that POMCCs should be sold in the manufacturer's original packs, which contain accompanying consumer medicine information leaflets.

The new protocol for the sale of Pharmacist Only Medicines for Chronic Conditions is available on the Pharmacy Council's website www.pharmacycouncil.org.nz; click on "pharmacists" then "standards".

❖ Recertification Programme Framework – a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) model

- The principal purpose of the HPCA Act 2003 is to protect the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that health practitioners are competent and fit to practise their profession, both at initial registration and on an ongoing basis.
- **Recertification** is one of the mechanisms the Pharmacy Council of NZ will use to ensure pharmacists are competent to practise pharmacy. From 2006 all practising pharmacists must be enrolled in a Recertification programme to receive an Annual Practising Certificate (APC).
- The Pharmacy Council has endorsed that the framework for Recertification programmes be based on the four steps (reflection, planning, action, outcomes) of the continuing professional development (CPD) model and meet the following requirements:
 - a) A reflection step including assessment against the Pharmacy Council of NZ Competence Standards
 - b) Learning that is both relevant to practice and addresses areas of identified need
 - c) Documentation of the CPD undertaken that demonstrates that the pharmacist has followed the four steps in the CPD cycle
 - d) Practice-benefit outcomes assessment according to Pharmacy Council of NZ set Outcomes Scale
 - e) Pharmacy Council - approved CPD record forms must be used to enable auditing of records

The purpose of CPD is to assist pharmacists in maintaining and developing their practice. The audit criteria is currently being set, and will be sent to pharmacists in mid 2005.

As of February 2005, the only recertification programme currently available and accredited by the Pharmacy Council is the ENHANCE programme of the Pharmaceutical Society of NZ Inc (PSNZ Inc). To gain accreditation, PSNZ (Inc) agreed to make ENHANCE available to both Society members and non-members, and to provide a basic "folder-only" version at a reduced cost (set by PSNZ (Inc) at \$50 plus GST) for those pharmacists not wanting full training and support. Full details are available from the Society on phone 04 8020030 or email e.johnstone@psnz.org.nz.

It is envisaged that in future other recertification programmes will be accredited by the Pharmacy Council of NZ (based on the above framework) as they are made available by interested providers.



Supervision of Interns

This is a reminder to pharmacists that public safety could be compromised if an intern's work is not closely supervised.

A recent investigation by the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) set up under the Health Practitioners' Competence Assurance Act (HPCAA) 2003 highlighted some of the requirements of intern supervision. The investigation was in relation to noncompliance with the Medicines Regulations and the Code of Ethics concerning the documentation that is required when dispensing Prescription Medicines and selling Pharmacist Only Medicines.

The Committee acknowledged that the purpose of the internship is to instil responsibility, by creating reality and significance in the workplace by allowing each individual intern to develop at a pace determined by their ability and confidence. Bestowing responsibility, however, must be achieved in accordance with the legislative requirements.

The Code of Ethics 2004 describes the responsibilities of the Charge Pharmacist, who is responsible for ensuring that all dispensing is under the supervision of a pharmacist who must be ready and available in the professional area and willing to intervene, advise or check the dispensing and issuing of any prescription (Obligation 3.8). The Charge Pharmacist must also ensure that the identity of the pharmacist who has taken final responsibility for a dispensed prescription is able to be determined (Obligation 3.9). The PCC committee clarified that a Pharmacist Only Medicine may be sold by an intern under supervision; however the name of the pharmacist must appear on the record of the sale. (Medicines Regulations 54A). Remember also that the patient/customer is not required to sign for a Pharmacist Only Medicine.

Changes to the Register since November 2004

Pharmacists voluntarily removed from the Register

Callan LHB, Cohen AC, Beresford PM, Hagan HL, Lawn SJ, Mountfort AJ, Parker BL, Phillips DL, Restall RJ, Stewart R, Tews VF, Thompson RN, Worth MD

Intern Pharmacists Registered

Aberhart CF, Abu Shawish MFM, Al-Saudi B, Al-Shdidi M, Archer VM, Balia DN, Barnes MR, Boustead AJ, Brokenshire DS, Chai AWY, Cheung KK, Chiu C-CM, Chou AT, Coulter CV, Cromie AJ, Cutfield HH, De Silva HS, Dean RK, Edmonds C, Ellis JM, Fereshtian S, Forrest AM, Garg A, Gers D, Gordon GEJ, Harley AA, Harwood AL, Hassan NHO, Heeney CT, Ho LCH, Horvath T-I, Hsieh Y-Y, Humphrey CJ, Hung J, Hung K-Y, Jack AS, Kaushal A, Keir ACJ, Kempthorne KE, Kumar M, Lett DJ, Liow D, Lo IHY, Lui AYK, Marr SJ, Martin AE, Martin KLM, Meyer DA, Ng JCY, Ng SHY, Oliphant EA, Ong SW, Parbhu M, Parker RC, Patel AD, Patel UJH, Petros K, Pool NK, Prasad A, Puli PK, Quillinchi BAK, Reed SA, Rushton KD, Samarasingha IKM, Simpson, S-AJ, Stevenson ND, Sumaru BS, Sutherland MT, Tang KC, Tang PKY, Tang WC, Turley AM, Vallabh HM, Wang S, Wellington DJ, Wright DFB

Intern Pharmacists transferring to Pharmacist Scope of Practice

Al-ani SAM, Al-Saadoon H, Appleby TM, Asamoah-Badu K, Beatson LA, Blumgart AF, Buckingham CA, Cameron KC, Cardinal T, Carroll GP, Chan YM, Chapman KM, Chau M, Cheung AH-W, Chi C-J, Chimanlal J, Clow R, Cook KM, Donaldson AJ, Dowman SK, Duffy EJ, Forsyth LM, Francois RK, French CJ, Gohil M, Gooch BJ, Gounden M, Gradon CH, Gray PK, Han S, Hassan SHO, Hong S, Horan KF, Hsu J K-C, Huang AK-Y, Jakes SL, Janata RA, Jessen KA, Jiang BAHC, Johnstone RA, Kettoola D, Khat S, Kitto AHB, Knauf S, Kremer LJ, Lam B, Lau PH, Lauder AF, Lawn RJ, Lee HJ, Lengoc VJ, Leung CLH, Leung S, Ling GJ, Luk PK, McGlashen AC, McGowan AJ, McIntosh EM, Murphy PGM, Neale TC, Nguyen T, O'Malley RM, Ong Y-W, Ouk M, Owen CM, Patel NJ, Pillai VK, Plant MA, Pow MC, Quinn TJ, Roberts JM, Sacks E, Salis ER, Schroder KA, Scott MJ, Scrimgeour BA, Searancke NM, Sharma P, Shaw RJ, Simpson BH, Sinclair JE, Singh KP, Smith CB, Smith NJ, Soutar HC, Stephenson EJ, Stoddard KA, Thrupp JW, Toll MJ, Tsai K-H, Tse SH, Tsui SS, Tyler KL, Van De Munckhof AL, Widyanto A, Wilkinson TD, Yap JSM, Yu CY

Pharmacists registered from Australia, United Kingdom and Ireland

Das P, Davidson IR, Patel KK, Kadous K, Griffin I

Changed Your Name or Address?

Remember to notify the Pharmacy Council – m.dawson@pharmacycouncil.org.nz

CONTACT US:

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