No

Summary of Federal and Provincial Laws and Regulations Governing the Dispensing of Prescription Drugs in Nova Scotia

PRESCRIPTIONS
Reasonable steps must be taken to ensure a written, verbal or faxed prescription, where permitted, is authentic and the prescriber is licensed and practices in Canada and belongs to a class of persons who, if licensed in Nova Scotia, would be entitled by law to prescribe that drug or device in Nova Scotia.

- There shall be no initial dispensing of a prescription and no prescription shall be refilled after a period of one year from the date prescribed.
- Currently in Nova Scotia, only physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners and veterinarians are authorized to prescribe Narcotic and Controlled Drugs and Substances. Optometrists and midwives have limited prescribing authority to prescribe Prescription Drugs but only under the conditions set out in their respective provincial legislation.

PRESCRIPTION TRANSFERS
- Transfers are not permitted for Narcotic and Controlled Drugs.
- Upon request, a pharmacist or pharmacy technician shall transfer a prescription or the remaining refills of a prescription to another pharmacist or pharmacy technician licensed in a Canadian jurisdiction, provided the prescription does not include a Narcotic or Controlled drug.
- A prescription for a Targeted Substance (e.g. benzodiazepines) may be transferred; however, once it has been received at a second pharmacy, NO further transfer is permitted.
- Only a pharmacist may transfer / accept a transfer of a Targeted Substance.
- When transferring a prescription from outside Nova Scotia, the prescriber must be licensed and practicing in Canada and belong to a class of persons who, if licensed in Nova Scotia, would be entitled by law to prescribe that drug or device in Nova Scotia.
- The pharmacist or pharmacy technician who transfers a prescription shall enter the fact that the prescription was transferred on the patient’s record and include the date of transfer, the name of the receiving pharmacist or pharmacy technician and pharmacy, the number of authorized refills remaining, the date of the last refill, the date of the original prescription and the prescription number.
- The pharmacist or pharmacy technician to whom a prescription has been transferred shall reduce the prescription to writing and record the name of the transferring pharmacist or pharmacy technician and pharmacy, the number of authorized refills remaining, the date of the last refill, the date of the original prescription and the prescription number.
- The transfer must comply with the Food & Drug Act (Canada), the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada) and the regulations under those Acts.

Note:

DESTRUCTION
All drugs awaiting destruction will be stored in a manner that restricts unauthorized access and that enables ready identification of tampering and/or diversion. Pharmacies will destroy CDSA drugs at the earliest opportunity, in a manner required by law, and consistent with recognized best practices in minimizing negative environmental impact.

PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM (PMP)
The drugs included in the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) are those that from time to time are recommended by the Program for inclusion in the list of monitored drugs. No pharmacist shall dispense a prescription for a monitored drug unless the prescription is written on the duplicate prescription form provided by the Program or e-prescribed through the provincial Drug Information System (DIS). Pharmacists shall obtain a signature or electronic equivalent from the patient or patient’s agent for every release of a Narcotic or Controlled Drug. Pharmacists may access patient profiles through the DIS or PMP’s e-Access to ensure the appropriate use of and to reduce the misuse of monitored drugs. Further PMP information can be accessed at (902) 496-7123 or www.nspmp.ca.

Note:

DIVERSION
Report any loss that cannot be explained or the risk of diversion is high, theft, or forged prescription of Narcotic and Controlled Drugs and Targeted Substances to the Office of Controlled Substances (OCS) within 10 days; a copy of this report is to be forwarded to the NSCP. A fillable Loss and Theft Report Form for Controlled Substances and Precursors can be accessed on the Health Canada website. Loss, theft and forged prescriptions should be reported to the local police authority. Double doctoring of Narcotic and Controlled Drugs and Targeted Substances is illegal and should be reported.
### Narcotic Drugs

- **Controlled Drugs - Part I**
  - Codeine and Other Codeine Derivatives (formerly Schedule F) and Derivatives: (e.g. Tylox®), Hydromorphone (Dilaudid®), Oxycodone (OxyContin®), Percodan® (Percocet®), Tablets (Tramadol®), Tablets (Tussionex®), Sublimaze® (Fentanyl), Tablets (Oxycodone Hydrochloride), Tablets (Tussionex®), (Lectopam®), Chlordiazepoxide, Clobazam, and Benzodiazepines (Valium®), Lorazepam (Ativan®), Oxycodone (OxyContin®), Oxymorphone (Percodan®) (formerly Schedule B).
- **Controlled Drugs - Part II**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (b) for inpatients of hospitals as defined by the Hospitals Act; (d) for residents in a licensed nursing home as defined by the Homes for Special Care Act.
- **Controlled Drugs - Part III**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (e) for treatment of pain or substance dependence by a physician who has been granted a prescription by the Office of Controlled Substances (OCS).
- **Controlled Drugs - Part IV**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (f) for inpatients of hospitals as defined by the Hospitals Act; (g) for residents in a licensed nursing home as defined by the Homes for Special Care Act.
- **Controlled Drugs - Part V**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (h) for treatment of pain or substance dependence by a physician who has been granted a prescription by the Office of Controlled Substances (OCS).

### Narcotic Preparations

- **Controlled Drugs - Part I**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (a) for inpatients of hospitals as defined by the Hospitals Act; (b) for residents in a licensed nursing home as defined by the Homes for Special Care Act.
- **Controlled Drugs - Part II**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (c) for the treatment of pain or substance dependence by a physician who has been granted a prescription by the Office of Controlled Substances (OCS).
- **Controlled Drugs - Part III**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (d) for inpatients of hospitals as defined by the Hospitals Act; (e) for residents in a licensed nursing home as defined by the Homes for Special Care Act.
- **Controlled Drugs - Part IV**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (f) for the treatment of pain or substance dependence by a physician who has been granted a prescription by the Office of Controlled Substances (OCS).
- **Controlled Drugs - Part V**
  - Controlled Drugs and Substances: (g) for inpatients of hospitals as defined by the Hospitals Act; (h) for residents in a licensed nursing home as defined by the Homes for Special Care Act.

### References

1. Reference Key 1: See Reference Key 2.
2. See Reference Key 3.

### Narcotic Drugs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification/Description</th>
<th>Prescription Requirements</th>
<th>Verbal</th>
<th>Fax**</th>
<th>Refills</th>
<th>Part-Fills</th>
<th>Records</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narcotic Drugs</td>
<td>Written</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Written instructions must be included on the prescription, specifying the total quantity of the drug, the amount to be dispensed, and the interval between each refill.

**Only in accordance with the NSCP Council Policy - Facsimile Transmission of Prescriptions.