

Pharmacists' Scope of Practice in Canada

Scope of Practice ¹		Province/Territory												
		BC	AB	SK	MB	ON	QC	NB	NS	PEI	NL	NWT	YT	NU
Prescriptive Authority (Schedule 1 Drugs) ¹	Independently, for any Schedule 1 drug	X	✓ ⁵	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	In a collaborative practice setting/agreement	X	✓ ⁵	✓ ⁵	✓ ⁵	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X
	Initiate ²													
	For minor ailments/conditions	X	✓	✓	✓ ⁵	P	✓	✓	✓	✓ ⁵	✓	X	X	X
	For smoking/tobacco cessation	X	✓	✓	✓ ⁵	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ⁵	✓	X	X	X
	In an emergency	✓ ⁷	✓	✓ ⁷	✓ ⁸	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ⁷	X	X	X	
Adapt ³/ Manage	Independently, for any Schedule 1 drug ⁴	X	✓ ⁵	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Independently, in a collaborative practice ⁴	X	✓ ⁵	✓ ⁵	✓ ⁵	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X
	Make therapeutic substitution	✓	✓	✓ ⁹	X	X	✓ ¹⁰	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
	Change drug dosage, formulation, regimen, etc.	✓	✓	✓ ⁹	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
	Renew/extend prescription for continuity of care	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Injection Authority (SC or IM) ^{1,5}	Any drug or vaccine	P	✓	✓	✓	X ¹¹	✓ ¹²	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
	Vaccines ⁶	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
	Influenza vaccine	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Labs	Order and interpret lab tests	X	✓	P ¹³	✓ ¹⁴	X	✓	P	P ¹³	✓ ¹⁵	X	X	X	X
Techs	Regulated pharmacy technicians	✓	✓	✓	✓ ¹⁶	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X

1. Scope of activities, regulations, training requirements and/or limitations differ between jurisdictions. Please refer to the pharmacy regulatory authorities for details.

2. Initiate new prescription drug therapy, not including drugs covered under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*.

3. Alter another prescriber's original/existing/current prescription for drug therapy.

4. Pharmacists independently manage Schedule 1 drug therapy under their own authority, unrestricted by existing/initial prescription(s), drug type, condition, etc.

5. Applies only to pharmacists with additional training, certification and/or authorisation through their regulatory authority.

6. Authority to inject may not be inclusive of all vaccines in this category. Please refer to the jurisdictional regulations.

7. Applies only to existing prescriptions, i.e., to provide continuity of care.

8. Pursuant to a Ministerial Order during a public health emergency.

9. Applies only to pharmacists working under collaborative practice agreements.

10. Only in the case of a drug shortage.

11. For education/demonstration purposes only.

12. In emergency situations.

13. Pending health system regulations for pharmacist requisitions to labs.

14. Authority is limited to ordering lab tests.

15. Authority limited to ordering blood tests. No authority to interpret tests.

16. Pharmacy technician registration available through the regulatory authority (no official licensing).

✓ Implemented in jurisdiction

P Pending legislation, regulation or policy for implementation

X Not implemented