



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR PHARMACY BOARD Policy

Online Access for Pharmacies

Approved October 1, 2007

At the October 1, 2007 meeting of the Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board a motion was passed that the public of Newfoundland and Labrador would be better served if pharmacists in the province were able to receive, while in their workplace, important health information in a timely manner. Safety advisories from Health Canada on drug warnings and emergency drug recalls are examples of information that pharmacists must be able to receive as quickly as possible in order to provide their patients with optimal care.

This requirement would also enable a cost saving to NLPB if all correspondence could be communicated through e-mail.

With patient safety in mind, the Board passed the following motion:

By July 1, 2008, licensed pharmacies must be able to receive electronic (e-mail) messages from the NLPB as a requirement for store licensure.

Pharmacies will be responsible for the dissemination of the information received from the NLPB to staff in a timely manner.

Pharmacies will be responsible for installing the appropriate security systems, including firewalls, to protect patient information.

As a result of this motion, the pharmacists-in-charge of licensed pharmacies in Newfoundland and Labrador must ensure that their pharmacies are on-line and ready to receive e-mails from the NLPB by July 1, 2008 and that the appropriate steps have been taken to ensure that patient information will be protected if the computer with the on-line access is the same one that houses the patient files.

Please contact the NLPB office should you require further clarification.