

Designated Prescribing Practitioner Overview

Pharmacists seeking APB certification are required to complete at least 32 hours of learning in practice with a Designated Prescribing Professional (DPP) during the program. A DPP may be either a nurse practitioner or a physician in a patient-facing role.

A pharmacist participating in the APB program needs to have a DPP in place prior to starting the program.

Learning in practice helps future pharmacist prescribers develop their independent prescribing skills for specific chronic conditions (see Table 1).

The trainee pharmacist will choose one chronic condition category to focus on for the duration of the program. The three areas are categorized in Table 1.

Table 1: Chronic conditions within the Level II B Advanced Prescribing Scope (Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals)

Heart		Lung	Endocrine
Heart Failure	Anti-coagulation management	Asthma	Diabetes A1C management
Post MI medication management	Dyslipidemia	COPD	Obesity
Atrial Fibrillation	Hypertension		
Angina			

Throughout their 32 hours of learning in practice, the APB participant pharmacists will need to demonstrate competency in:

- Assessing the patient, including physical assessments appropriate to their chosen chronic condition focus.
- Creating and justify viable patient-centered evidence-based treatment options.
- Collaborating with the patient to reach a shared decision for a viable treatment plan.
- Preparing the patient for successful implementation of the treatment plan.
- Following appropriate governance structures for advanced prescribing.

Please use the following checklist as a guide to determine whether you have capacity, as a DPP, to support a pharmacist with their 32 hours of learning in practice to become an 'Advanced Prescribing B' pharmacist

Key Attributes of a Successful Supervisor:

- Supportive:** Has a commitment to the pharmacist's development and creating a safe and supportive learning culture.
- Objective:** Can provide regular constructive feedback and unbiased assessment of skills based on best practice standards.
- Knowledgeable:** Active prescriber with relevant experience in the trainee's clinical focus area.
- Communicative:** Can clearly demonstrate and articulate their patient assessment practices and decision-making processes with the pharmacist, while encouraging open discussions.

Responsibilities:

1. **Training and Assessment:**
 - Support the participant to meet their learning outcomes.
 - Regularly assess the trainee to guide their independent prescribing skill development.
 - Often there is an "I do, We do, You do" approach to independent skill development.
 - Assess and record practice of APB competencies.
2. **Facilitating Learning:**
 - Encourage critical thinking and reflection about assessment and decision-making skills for independent prescribing in the focus area.
 - Support a multidisciplinary team approach by encouraging/facilitating learning from other practitioners.
 - Support the pharmacist's increased responsibility in being accountable for prescribing decisions.
3. **Ensuring Patient Safety:**
 - Ensure safe and effective patient care through clinical supervision.
 - Inform patients of trainee presence and obtain consent for consultations.
 - Act in the interest of patient and public safety when evaluating trainee competence.
4. **Handling Concerns:**
 - Recognize and respond to concerns about the trainee's practice or behavior to the trainee and/or the CPE facilitator.
5. **Support and Time Management:**
 - Ensure you have sufficient time to support the trainee effectively.
 - Seeking help from CPE as needed.
6. **Follow-up:**
 - Be available as a mentor on an as-needed basis for the pharmacist for 6 months after they have gained Advanced Prescribing II B authority. (\approx 3 hours)