



The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association

187 ST. MARY'S ROAD • WINNIPEG, MB • R2H 1J2 • PHONE (204) 233-1411 • FAX (204) 237-

E-Mail info@mpha.mb.ca

To: All Manitoba Pharmacies

From: Ross Forsyth, Assistant Registrar

Date: April 21, 2005

Re: Transfer of levonorgestrel to NAPRA Schedule 2 (II) Status

Health Canada has announced that on April 19, 2005 Plan B (levonorgestrel) was approved for sale without a physician's authorization. The National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC) has determined that levonorgestrel is a NAPRA Schedule 2 (II) drug. Health Canada has also advised that the Schedule F packaging is suitable for Schedule 2 use. Pharmacists have asked the office for guidance on implementation, training and education, and practice guidelines on Emergency Contraception (EC).

The Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA) has developed a workshop program and on-line training program that contain tools to prepare pharmacists to assess and counsel women seeking EC Care. The CPhA program contains documents and a process that can be invaluable in establishing a pharmacy EC care program. A CPhA program facilitated by Dr. Tom Brown was held last fall both in Winnipeg and by videoconference to rural Manitoba. Videotapes of the CCCEP-accredited program with a CD of practice resources are available from the MPhA office at 233-1411. If an on-line program is preferred, the CPhA Emergency Contraception On-Line Training Program is available at www.pharmacists.ca/ecp.

The MPhA Council has approved guidelines on the provision of EC Care in Manitoba pharmacies. Included is a requirement for training, documentation, and counselling. A copy of the guideline is enclosed for your review and insertion in the Pharmacy MPhA Binder under the tab "Standards of Practice". For your convenience, copies of the CPhA counselling and screening forms, shrunk to a suitable size for use in a prescription pharmacy filing system and a full 8 1/2 by 11" page for further reference, are attached and are posted on the MPhA website at <http://www.napra.org/docs/0/203/204/218.asp>. Pharmacies may photocopy these documents.

The MPhA office staff will be available, should you need assistance with any aspects of the transfer, or establishment of EC Care in your practice.