

# STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

## THE USE & PRESCRIBING OF DRUGS IN OPTOMETRIC PRACTICE

<b>Name:</b>	The Use & Prescribing of Drugs in Optometric Practice
<b>Date Approved:</b>	09/30/2016
<b>Date Updated:</b>	02/08/2020 07/08/2020
<b>Number:</b>	SP-C-2
<b>Type:</b>	Clinical Standards (C)
<b>Reference:</b>	<b>04.24.99 MOTION</b> "If a practitioner has initiated therapeutic pharmaceutical treatment for an acute ocular condition, a method of after hour access must be provided to the patient. (i.e. The practitioner or a colleague (by prior arrangement) must be available for consultation)." CARRIED. <b>02.08.20 MOTION</b> "To amend STANDARD OF PRACTICE SP-C-2 to include the clarification "with the exception of narcotics." CARRIED. <b>07.08.20 MOTION</b> "To approve STANDARD OF PRACTICE SP-C-2 The Use & Prescribing of Drugs in Optometric Practice." CARRIED.

Licensed optometrists in Saskatchewan have the authority to prescribe Schedule I (as designated by the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy) drugs, with the exception of narcotics, for the treatment of eye disease and vision disorders.

Every time a member prescribes a drug, the member shall record the following in the patient's health record:

- The date of the prescription
- Details of the prescription, including the drug prescribed, dosage and route of administration
- The number or repeats authorized if any
- Details of the counseling provided by the member
- A detailed treatment and management plan along with appropriate follow up care

24-hour per day access to appropriate care must be provided while the patient is being treated with prescription drugs for acute and urgent vision conditions. This may include:

- Providing patients with home or cell number, or
- Arrangement for care through available colleagues, or
- The patient having reasonable access to a hospital or alternate medical facility emergency services