

RE: **Review and certification of programs addressing opioid prescribing and management**

February 27, 2017

Dear colleagues:

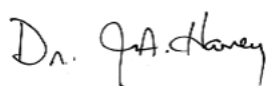
As you may be aware, Health Canada has announced it will release a new Canadian clinical practice guideline for opioid prescribing in the next six to eight weeks. In anticipation of this important update, the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) is placing a hold on the review and certification of any Mainpro+® credit programs on the subject of opioid prescribing and management. This moratorium takes effect immediately. We have placed any relevant submissions currently under review in our system on hold so providers have an opportunity to update these programs to ensure the content meets the requirements of the new guideline. Once Health Canada releases its new guideline, the CFPC will lift the moratorium. At that time, the CFPC will contact providers who had submissions on hold to allow them to indicate whether they wish to proceed with the review or update content before moving forward. The CFPC will not charge any additional fees to providers who choose to update content and resubmit the program. The CFPC will refund application fees to providers who choose to withdraw their submissions.

The CFPC anticipates that program providers will need to update currently approved programs on the subject of opioid prescribing to incorporate the recommendations of the new guideline. The CFPC will re-review these programs at no charge to providers. The changes covered under the no-charge review will be limited to content changes that are reflective of the new guidelines. The CFPC will withdraw Mainpro+ certification from programs that are not updated to reflect the new guidelines.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation with this decision. We believe this is an important step in ensuring the CFPC is meeting the challenges of the opioid crisis in Canada and that this step is in the best interests of our members and their patients.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the CERT+ team at certplus@cfpc.ca or 1-866-242-5885.

Sincerely,



Janice Harvey, MD, CCFP (SEM), FCFP
Interim Director, Continuing Professional Development
Professional Development and Practice Support
The College of Family Physicians of Canada
2630 Skymark Avenue, Mississauga, ON, L4W 5A4
www.cfpc.ca