

PharmaNet Bulletin

PLEASE INSERT IN YOUR PHARMACARE/PHARMANET POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

Practitioner Restrictions Release

Effective February 18, 2002, PharmaNet functionality will apply “prescriber drug restrictions” and practitioner “practicing status” as defined by the relevant College.*

The College of Physicians and Surgeons (CPSBC), the College of Dental Surgeons (CDSBC) and the College of Pharmacists (CPBC) have collaborated with Pharmacare in the implementation of these PharmaNet enhancements.

* ‘Prescriber drug restrictions’ will not be implemented for CDSBC on February 18, 2002, but will be implemented shortly thereafter. The exact date of implementation will be announced in a later bulletin.

Prescriber Restrictions and Adjudication

The enhanced PharmaNet functionality will indicate when the CPSBC and CDSBC have restricted certain members from prescribing specified groups of drugs such as narcotics, controlled drugs, or targeted substances. Prescriber restrictions will be entered directly on PharmaNet by the CPSBC and CDSBC.

PharmaNet will prevent pharmacists from processing prescriptions written by prescribers who are restricted from prescribing specific drugs. Rejected prescriptions will not be adjudicated and will not be recorded on the PharmaNet Patient Record. The following error message will be returned to the pharmacist:

‘174 – Transaction not processed, prescriber is not authorized’.

Refer to Scenarios for Restricted and Non-Practicing Practitioners on page 2.

Practitioner Practicing Status Flag and Adjudication

The practicing status flag on PharmaNet will indicate the practicing status for physicians, dentists and pharmacists as received from the Colleges via nightly data loads.

PharmaNet will prevent pharmacists from processing prescriptions, including refills, written by prescribers with a non-practicing status. The following error message will be returned to the pharmacist:

‘101 – Prescriber not found’.

PharmaNet will not allow a practitioner with a practicing status of non-practicing to access the system using any transaction. The following error message will be returned to the practitioner:

‘101 – Practitioner not found’.

Refer to Scenarios for Restricted and Non-Practicing Practitioners on page 2.

PharmaNet HelpDesk Support

The PharmaNet HelpDesk is available to verify the presence of a prescriber restriction or non-practicing status when a prescription is rejected. Questions specific to the application of practicing status or prescriber restrictions must be addressed to the appropriate College.

The PharmaNet HelpDesk will log inquiries specific to practicing status or prescribing restrictions that require College verification and forward the inquiries to the appropriate College. Once an inquiry has been forwarded to the College, practitioners should communicate directly with the College.

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Excluded Colleges

The practitioner status for midwives, podiatrists, veterinarians and members of the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons will not be affected by this release. Pharmacists should continue their current practices when processing prescriptions authorized by these practitioners. Prescription monitoring for these prescribers will be through retrospective audit.

Scenarios for Restricted and Non-Practicing Practitioners:

If you:	And:	The prescription or transaction will:	And the following error message will be returned:
Record a prescription	The prescriber has a prescribing restriction	Be rejected	174 - Transaction not processed, prescriber not authorized.
Record a prescription	The prescriber is non- practicing	Be rejected	101- Prescriber not found.
Access any transaction through PharmaNet	You (pharmacist or physician) are non- practicing	Be rejected	101- Practitioner not found.
Do a practitioner Search using the Practitioner ID	The practitioner is non-practicing	Return practitioner information with the status identified	N/A
Do a practitioner Search using the practitioner name	The practitioner is non-practicing	Return only those matching practitioners with a status of practicing	N/A

Additional System Changes

The following system changes will be implemented on February 7, 2002:

1. Retransmission of a Reversal

If the original reversal is successful, a retransmission will result in the confirmation message:

‘No reversal made - Reversal processed previously. No update.’

2. Drug Cost and Professional Fee > \$9999.99

In the past, when a claim exceeding \$9999.99 was processed, the adjudication results were incorrect. This problem has now been fixed to adjudicate the claim correctly; however, the claim must still be divided and processed as two separate transactions. Claims not submitted in two transactions will return the error message: **‘192 Transaction not successful. Please retransmit’**. When this error message is received, divide the claim into two transactions and resubmit.