



**CDBC Update  
Volume 4 Number 2  
March, 2009**

This CDBC Monthly Update includes information about:

- ***April 1: Are you registered to practice?***
- ***Labour Mobility Changes***
- ***Colleges Joining the Health Professions Act (HPA)***
- ***HPA Amendment Allows Pharmacists to Renew and Adapt Prescriptions***
- ***Preceptorship as an Example of Continuing Competence***
- ***Monthly Updates or Newsletters?***

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***April 1: Are you registered to practice?***

The 2009/2010 CDBC registration year officially began April 1, 2009. If you are not listed on our [Public Register](#) ***you are not able to legally practice dietetics and may not use the Reserved Title "dietitian"***. You may renew your registration "late", after March 31, through the same website "renewal" link with an additional late fee of \$250. Please contact CDBC if you have any questions.

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***Labour Mobility Changes***

As of April 1, 2009, amendments to the Agreement on Internal Trade were enacted that allow health professionals who are ***fully registered and in good standing*** in one province to move and register in another province ***without further assessment or examination***. The provisions of this agreement are the new standard for labour mobility and take priority over the BC/Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) and the dietitians' Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA). Canadian RDs who are registered in full/general registration classes and in good standing are no longer required to write or re-write the CDRE if they move to another province.

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***Colleges Joining the Health Professions Act (HPA)***

Regulation under the HPA is ***expanding by five professions*** from those currently regulated. Chiropractors and optometrists come under the HPA on March 1, 2009, ***pharmacists on April 1***, dentists and certified dental assistants on April 3 and

**physicians on June 1.** Also, the audiologists, speech-language pathologists and hearing instrument dispensing practitioners have been designated under the HPA and the new College of Speech and Hearing Professionals of BC will be established April 1, 2010.

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### **HPA Amendment Allows Pharmacists to Renew and Adapt Prescriptions**

Since January 1, 2009, pharmacists in all practice settings are legally able to renew and adapt most prescriptions within the one-year "life" of a prescription without requiring the patient to see their doctor for a new prescription. This change was inspired by the BC government's "Conversations on Health" to provide improved access of health services to the public. Please consult [www.bcpharmacists.org](http://www.bcpharmacists.org) for more information.

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### **Preceptorship as an Example of Continuing Competence**

Several registrants recently reported in their Professional Development Plans (PDPs) a shared goal to **increase their competence as preceptors**. Supervision of interns provided these registrants with opportunities to enhance several indicators of the seven Standards of Practice which varied according to the supervising dietitian's area of practice. Not only did preceptorship require good **communication skills** to establish and maintain rapport with students and confidence to support student learning (**constructive criticism**), but it also helped registrants fine tune their **critical thinking** and **practice skills** in order to evaluate the interns' ability to be accountable and to practice competently, safely, ethically and professionally. Registrants also reported attending a preceptorship workshop offered by their Health Authority as part of their learning process to becoming an effective preceptor. **Thank you** to all registrants who shared this important continuing competence initiative!

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### **Monthly Updates or Newsletters?**

At the February 13, 2009 meeting, Board members reviewed statistics on the frequency of "opened" Monthly Updates and Newsletters as well as the number of times registrants "clicked" on a news item to link to an expanded reference on the website. **The statistics for both circulations were fairly similar.** Knowing this, and the fact that it takes staff only a few hours to produce a Monthly Update with current news items and several days to write about the broader issues addressed in a Newsletter, the Board determined that the CDBC would produce **one Newsletter per year** (after the AGM and fall Board meeting) and **Monthly Updates most other months**. Please contact the office if you have comments about this new practice. We'd like to hear from you!

### **Questions or comments?**

Do you have questions or comments about items in this Update? Would you like CDBC staff to provide an update on **Inter-professional Agreements to Reduce RD Practice Barriers** or to provide a **Continuing Competence Program (CCP) session**? Please contact the CDBC office at (604) 736-2016, through our BC toll-free number at 1 (877) 736-2016 or by email at: [info@collegeofdietitiansbc.org](mailto:info@collegeofdietitiansbc.org). We'd be pleased to meet with your local RD group!

email: [info@collegeofdietitiansbc.org](mailto:info@collegeofdietitiansbc.org) web: <http://www.collegeofdietitiansbc.org>

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