

Nova Scotia Law Amendments Submission Regarding Bill 17, Fair Drug Pricing Act

My name is Micheal Pelly. I am a pharmacist in Elmsdale, Nova Scotia where I have practiced since 1997. I chose to stay in the community in which I grew up in. I am passionate about my profession and participating in health care. I want to continue to be counted on in my community, by my patients, friends, family members, and professional colleges. I am concerned the financial impact of Bill 17 will affect my ability, through reduced hours and positions, to perform the following non-funded professional activities:

Patients:

- Home delivery/product shortage management
- Questions/health promotion (clinical programs)/triage to avoid ER & doctor visits
- Infant/new parent advise recommendations
- Diabetes management & training

****We are always accessible and counted on to partner with patients in their health**

Seniors:

- MSI questions/premium explanations/what is covered?
- Special authorizations/contacting physicians for codes
- Participating with seniors groups (talks/programs)

Physician/Hospitals:

- Researching drug information questions
- Physician inquiries
- Medication requests/clarification for hospital admittance

****Should we start asking for faxed requests and respond when time becomes available? This is what we see other professionals implementing to manage their lack of time.**

As pharmacists and pharmacy team members we are pulled in many directions during the work day. We rise up to the challenge of putting the patient first no matter what else is going and on despite not being reimbursed for many of our services. We are counted on by our patients and healthcare team-members alike. Bill 17 will surely put increased pressure on already taxed staffing levels. What happens when pharmacists want to provide these health services requests (non-reimbursed) but simply can't due to lack of resources. I'm not looking forward to telling my neighbour/friend/senior/patient that I don't have the time

Sincerely

Micheal Pelly