

Prescriber Identification

1. Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to improve patient safety by ensuring that prescribers can be readily identified both during the delivery of care and retrospectively on chart review.

2. Policy Statement

Prescriber identification will include:

- Printed Name
- Signature
- Professional Licensing Body Identification Number (e.g. CPSID, CRNBC, CPBC, etc.)

3. Policy Scope

This policy applies to all physicians and staff who prescribes and writes in patients' charts, i.e. MD, mid-wives, nurses, pharmacists ("prescribers") with prescribing privileges at hospitals that are located within Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (VCH).

4. Policy Principles

Prescriber identification is essential for both patient safety and medical-legal reasons.

This issue will become ever more significant as the range of health professionals with prescribing authority is expanded as a result of the evolution of the BC Health Professions Act.

5. Procedures

5.1 After writing an order in the patient's clinical record, the prescriber will print their name, professional licensing body identification number and sign the order.

5.2 A caregiver who accepts a verbal order from a prescriber will document the prescriber's name and professional licensing body identification number in the clinical record.

6. Exceptions

None

7. Related Policies

None

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8. Definitions

“**CPSID**” means College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia Registration Number.

“**CRNBC**” means College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia.

“**CPBC**” means College of Pharmacists of British Columbia.

“**VCH**” means Vancouver Coastal Health Authority.

9. References

None

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