



Promoting the appropriate use,
and reducing the abuse and misuse, of monitored drugs in Nova Scotia.

Important Information for Prescribers and Pharmacists

Change in Scheduling for Nucynta:

The Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program (NSPMP) has recently been advised that Health Canada has updated the status of Nucynta. It is now a Schedule 1 (Narcotic CDSA) drug, therefore, the NSPMP wants to advise all prescribers of monitored drugs that Nucynta must now be written on a duplicate prescription in order for it to be dispensed within Nova Scotia.

If you should have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the NSPMP via telephone at 902.496.7123 or (toll free) 1.877.476.7767

Information Required on a Duplicate Prescription:

The NSPMP wants to remind all prescriber's that a prescription is considered a means of communication with the pharmacist and should include clear and concise direction on what medication is to be dispensed. For example, if you are writing a prescription for Hydromorphone, the prescription should clearly indicate if it is for a long acting (Hydromorph Contin) or short acting (Hydromorphone) preparation.

While it is acceptable to write multiple strengths of a drug on one duplicate prescription, it is not acceptable to write different formulations (i.e. Hydromorph Contin and Hydromorphone). Writing clear direction will help ensure patient safety and eliminate dispensing errors.