

Community Pharmacists MACS Consult Template

Usage & Context Guide

On **June 1, 2023**, pharmacists in British Columbia experienced the largest expansion of scope in decades, gaining authority to assess and prescribe for 21 **minor ailments and contraception**.

Purpose of This Resource

This resource supports appropriately integrating community pharmacists into clinic workflows with information on:

- Triaging minor ailments consistently
- Clarifying which presentations can be directed to community pharmacists
- Improving clinic workflow and reducing low-acuity visits when necessary, strengthening collaboration between primary care teams and pharmacists

MACS Consult Template (Clinic Tool)

The MACS Consult Template is a **customizable workflow guide** for use by health care teams to support consistent decision-making by MOAs for redirecting care to a community pharmacist

It helps clinics determine in advance:

- Which **minor ailment presentations** can be directed to community pharmacists
- Which concerns should remain within the clinic team
- How to standardize triage and routing decisions for minor ailment care

Each clinic is expected to **review and adapt the template together** to reflect their own workflow, comfort level, and patient population needs.

How to Use This Tool

- **Review:** Physician(s) and MOAs go through the MACS template together
- **Customize:** Identify which minor ailments are appropriate for pharmacist consults
- **Implement:** Establish clear, consistent triage rules for routing patients

Notes

Based on the “*MACS Conditions, PINs and Drugs v. May 29, 2023*” document.

Created in partnership with **Kyle Denly, Registered Pharmacist, Pharmasave Health Centre (North Vancouver)** and the **North Shore Division Pharmacist Advisory Group**.

This document is intended to be reviewed, discussed, and agreed upon by each physician, MOA and other team members as appropriate, prior to implementation.

Referring Patients to Community Pharmacists

In the case we cannot accommodate a patient (over-booked, physician not available, etc.), what conditions are approved to refer to a community pharmacist?

Physician Name: _____ Clinic: _____ Date: _____

Circle Y/N	Condition	Drugs a pharmacist can Prescribe	
Yes or No	Acne, Mild	Topical drugs	Not if severe anxiety re-condition. Not if family history of acne scarring, low self-esteem, depression, may require a mental health discussion.
Yes or No	Allergic rhinitis	Intranasal or ophthalmic drugs (including antihistamines), oral antihistamines	Not if pregnant. Must be bilateral IE: not congestion or pain on one side only. Not sinusitis.
Yes or No	Conjunctivitis Allergic, Bacterial, Viral	Ophthalmic drugs	Not for patients who wear contact lenses.
Yes or No	Contraception	Drugs specified in Schedule 1 of the Drug Schedules Regulation	Only if prescription is for contraception only (Not other conditions).
Yes or No	Dermatitis Allergic, Atopic, Contact, Diaper, Seborrheic	Topical drugs	Not if known psoriasis. Not cradle cap. Yes if dandruff.
Yes or No	Dysmenorrhea	NSAIDS	Not first menstrual cycle.
Yes or No	Fungal Infection Nail, Ringworm, Jock itch, Athlete's foot	Topical drugs	Not immunocompromised. Not for cancer patients. Not a diabetic patient.
Yes or No	GERD/Dyspepsia	Gastric acid-reducing drugs	Not if over 50 and new onset symptoms. Not if blood is in stool or vomit. "Is there any significant blood?"
Yes or No	Headache	NSAIDS	Not if history of migraines. Not if associated with light and noise. Not only on one side of the head. Tension type headaches only.
Yes or No	Hemorrhoids	Topical drugs	Over 12 only. Not if pregnant.
Yes or No	Herpes Labialis (cold sores)	Topical drugs (including anti-viral), other types of anti-viral	Not under age 12. Not prevention (IE: take a tablet a day)
Yes or No	Impetigo	Topical drugs	No folliculitis.
Yes or No	Oral Ulcers (canker cores, aphthous ulcers)	Topical drugs	Not for chemo/radiation treatment patients. Not if it is the first time over 30 years old. Not if immunocompromised.
Yes or No	Oropharyngeal candidiasis (oral thrush)	Antifungal drugs	Not if caused by chemo/radiation treatment. Over age 1 and under age 65.
Yes or No	Musculoskeletal sprains and strains	NSAIDS	
Yes or No	Shingles (herpes zoster)	Antiviral drugs	Not involving the eye area (not within 3 inches around the surrounding eye area).
Yes or No	Nicotine Dependence	Nicotine cessation drugs	Not for under age 12.
Yes or No	Threadworms or pinworms	Anthelmintic drugs	Not if pregnant.

Yes or No	Urinary Tract Infection (uncomplicated)	Antibiotic drugs	Not under age 16. Not born male. Not pregnant. No sign of kidney involvement.
Yes or No	Urticaria, including insect bites	Topical drugs (including antihistamines), other antihistamine drugs	Anaphylaxis go to ER.
Yes or No	Vagina candidiasis (yeast infection)	Antifungal drugs	
Yes or No	Distal Lateral Subungual Onychomycosis (Toenail)	Topical drugs	Not if diabetic. Not if nail is detaching.

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