

TRAVEL MEDICINE: PRESCRIBING FOR PREVENTABLE DISEASES

Prescribing for preventable diseases is addressed in Appendix 2 of the Regulations of the New Brunswick College of Pharmacists. Section 3 in Appendix 2 of the Regulations relates specifically to vaccines required for international travel. Before a pharmacist prescribes vaccines for one of the diseases listed in Section 3 (Cholera, European Tick- Borne Encephalitis, Japanese Encephalitis, Rabies, Typhoid and Yellow Fever) he or she must successfully complete The International Society of Travel Medicine (ISTM) certification in Travel Health.

The ISTM Certification in Travel Health is currently the only program approved by the NBCP Council. A training program in travel medicine should provide the knowledge base sufficient for an understanding of treatment need, the need for tools that provide current information and a requirement for ongoing education. There are a number of programs available however many do not provide the depth of knowledge relative to others. A few provide depth but of these few only one has a requirement for continued competency. As other programs develop methods of continued competency, they may be considered by NBCP Council for approval.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE NEW BRUNSWICK COLLEGE OF PHARMACISTS:

- 1. Pharmacists must have the ISTM certification in Travel Health in order to prescribe vaccines listed in Section 3 in Appendix 2 of the Regulations.
- 2. No documentation is required to be sent to the College office.
- 3. Pharmacists should retain their documentation related to ISTM certification for proof upon request.

In summary, to administer or prescribe vaccines, a pharmacist must have the following:

