

## PACE Practice Journal Documentation

### **How to Complete a Practice Journal Entry**

1. Assign a brief title.
2. Record the date on which the situation occurred.
3. Summarize the situation.
4. Document the steps you took to manage the situation.

Indicate every element that could have been demonstrated by the situation using the checkboxes. By the end of the assessment period, there must be at least one practice journal linked to every element in the assessment criteria.

#### **Title:**

Technician Scope of Practice

#### **Date:**

07/18/2018

#### **Overview of the situation:**

The site where I'm doing my PACE assessment has pharmacists, registered technicians, and pharmacy assistants working at it. During the first few days of my assessment, I noticed that one of the pharmacy assistants would occasionally hand out prescriptions to patients which hadn't been checked by the pharmacist first. I asked the assistant about it and he said that the registered technician had checked them already for right doctor, right patient, right medication, right quantity, right directions, etc. and that since it was a refill the pharmacist didn't need to do a therapeutic check (this was done the first time this prescription was filled).

#### **Action taken to resolve the situation:**

I remembered reading about scopes of practice while I was studying for my jurisprudence exam and I was pretty sure that therapeutic checks are required for both new and refill prescriptions. This is in order to ensure that the medication is still indicated, safe and effective for the patient to continue taking. I searched through the OCP website and found the article '[Understanding What a Pharmacy Technician Can Do](#)' and I confirmed that each completed prescription must contain the signature, or some other identifying mechanism, of both the technician (for the technical functions) and the pharmacist (for the therapeutic functions). I showed this document to the assistant and he agreed that he had misunderstood what the technician could and could not do. I organized a staff huddle where I went over the technician scope of practice to ensure that all of the pharmacy team members understood the regulations and we came up with a process whereby no prescription would be handed out unless the hard copy had the signatures of both the technician and the pharmacist on them. I also printed the '[Legal Authority for Scopes of Practice](#)' chart and pinned it to the communication board in the pharmacy so that anyone could refer to it at any time.

**Related Elements:** *click all that apply*

**Patient Care**

- 1.1 Develops Patient Relationships
- 1.2 Conducts Patient Assessments
- 1.3 Identification of Drug Therapy Problems
- 1.4 Clinical Decision Making
- 1.5 Implements Care Plans
- 1.6 Refers Patients
- 1.7 Provides Follow-up and Evaluates Care

**Communication & Education**

- 2.1 Communicates Effectively (Verbal and Non-verbal Skills)
- 2.2 Documents Effectively

**Professionalism**

- 3.1 Applies Regulations and Ethical Principles in Practice
- 3.2 Demonstrates an Awareness of One's Own Practice Limitations

**Professional Collaboration**

- 4.1 Demonstrates and Promotes Inter-/Intra-professional Relationships
- 4.2 Fulfills Roles and Responsibilities with Healthcare Team

**Practice Management**

- 5.1 Prioritizes Patient Care Responsibilities to Manage Workload
- 5.2 Manages Drug Dispensing
- 5.3 Patient Medication Safety

**For Assessor Use Only**

**Comments**

This section is used for the assessor to add their own comments about the situation and how they felt the student/intern handled things from their point of view. The assessor should reflect on the 'related elements' which the candidate checked off to ensure that this entry does indeed reflect these competencies. The assessor should also indicate the level of guidance that was required (below).

**Level of Guidance Required:**

- Significant
- Some
- Minimal