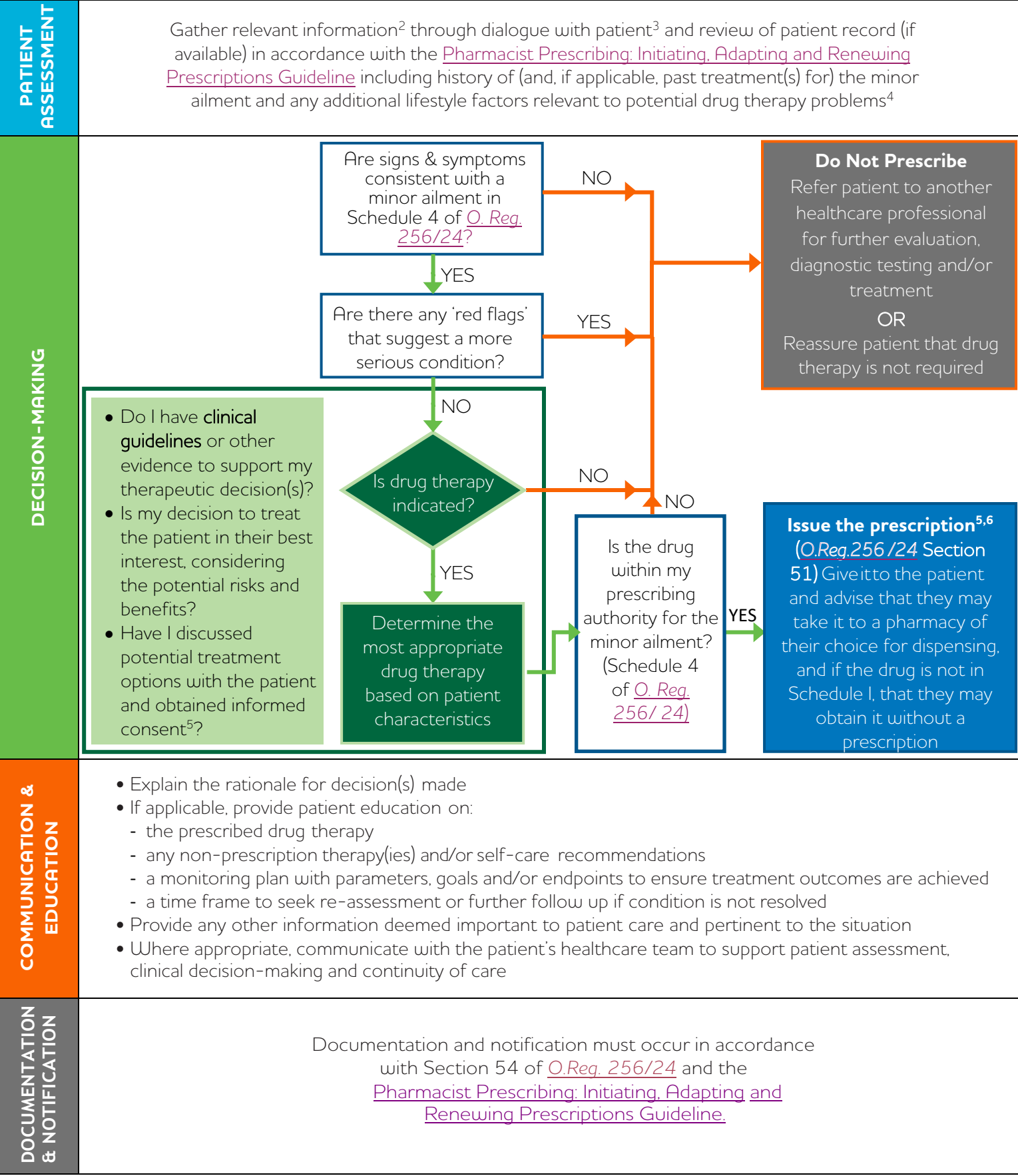


The [Standards of Practice](#) and [Code of Ethics](#) expect pharmacists to use their knowledge and expertise to optimize health outcomes for patients. Together with legislation they provide a framework within which pharmacists exercise professional judgment each time they consider prescribing.

[Patient Assessment](#), [Decision Making](#), [Communication & Education](#) and [Documentation](#) are key practice domains identified as having the greatest potential impact on patient care and safety. This infographic illustrates how pharmacists may approach consultations for treating minor ailments to meet expectations in each of these four domains. It should be interpreted and applied in conjunction with the Mandatory Orientation for Minor Ailments Prescribing e-learning module and the [Pharmacist Prescribing: Initiating, Adapting and Renewing Prescriptions Guideline](#).



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<sup>1</sup>Minor ailments are health conditions that can be managed with minimal treatment and/or self-care strategies. Additional criteria: usually a short-term condition, lab tests are not usually required, low risk of treatment masking underlying conditions, medication and medical histories can reliably differentiate more serious conditions, only minimal or short-term follow-up is required.

<sup>2</sup>For tools and resources with information gathering and conducting a comprehensive patient assessment, see: [https://ocpinfo.com/practice\\_topic/patient-assessment/](https://ocpinfo.com/practice_topic/patient-assessment/)

<sup>3</sup>Where the term "patient" is used it is inclusive of an agent or substitute decision maker acting on the patient's behalf.

<sup>4</sup>Drug therapy problems may be identified through an assessment of the indication, efficacy, safety, and use/adherence (ISEU/A) of a prescribed treatment [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1i6y\\_BTUhANUiMHnk\\_--q-eaAk5\\_toUpX/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101099209248495523340&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1i6y_BTUhANUiMHnk_--q-eaAk5_toUpX/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101099209248495523340&rtpof=true&sd=true)

<sup>5</sup>Refer to [Pharmacist Prescribing: Initiating, Adapting and Renewing Prescriptions Guideline](#)

<sup>6</sup>Orders for Treatment in settings governed by the *Public Hospitals Act* are limited by [R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 965: HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT](#) and pharmacist prescribing requires enabling medical directives.