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CANADIAN PHARMACY LAW

Marie Berry

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This release features updates to Chapter 2: Drug Regulation, Federal and Provincial, Chapter 3: Intellectual Property Patents and Chapter 9: Selected Court Cases. As well there are updates to Federal legislation as well as legislation and by-laws in the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and the Northwest Territories.

Highlights

- **Pharmacists Duty to Inform Patients Despite Personal Views** — In *S.S. v. K.P.* (June 5, 2018), Doc. 17-CRV-0478, 2018 CanLII 50672 (ON HPARB): The pharmacist in this case had been presented with a prescription for medically terminating a pregnancy. The patient dropped off the prescription and when she returned, the prescription was not ready. The pharmacist telephoned the prescriber to question the prescription, but eventually did dispense the prescription, however he required the patient to agree to a waiver advising that she

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understood that the high dose of methotrexate was intended for an abortion and that there would be no responsibility accepted by either the pharmacy or dispensing pharmacist.

- **Vanessa's Law** — The *Unsafe Drugs Act* (Vanessa's Law), S.C. 2014, c 24 amends the *Food and Drugs Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. F-27 was intended to afford more transparency to the process by which drugs reach the Canadian market and to increase the safety of therapeutic products including drugs once they are available in the Canadian market. When a researcher applied to Health Canada for unpublished clinical trials for several different medications, he was required to sign a confidentiality agreement which would have impeded his ability to do his research and to publish it. The legislation was successfully used to order the disclosure of the requested information, exactly what it was designed to do.