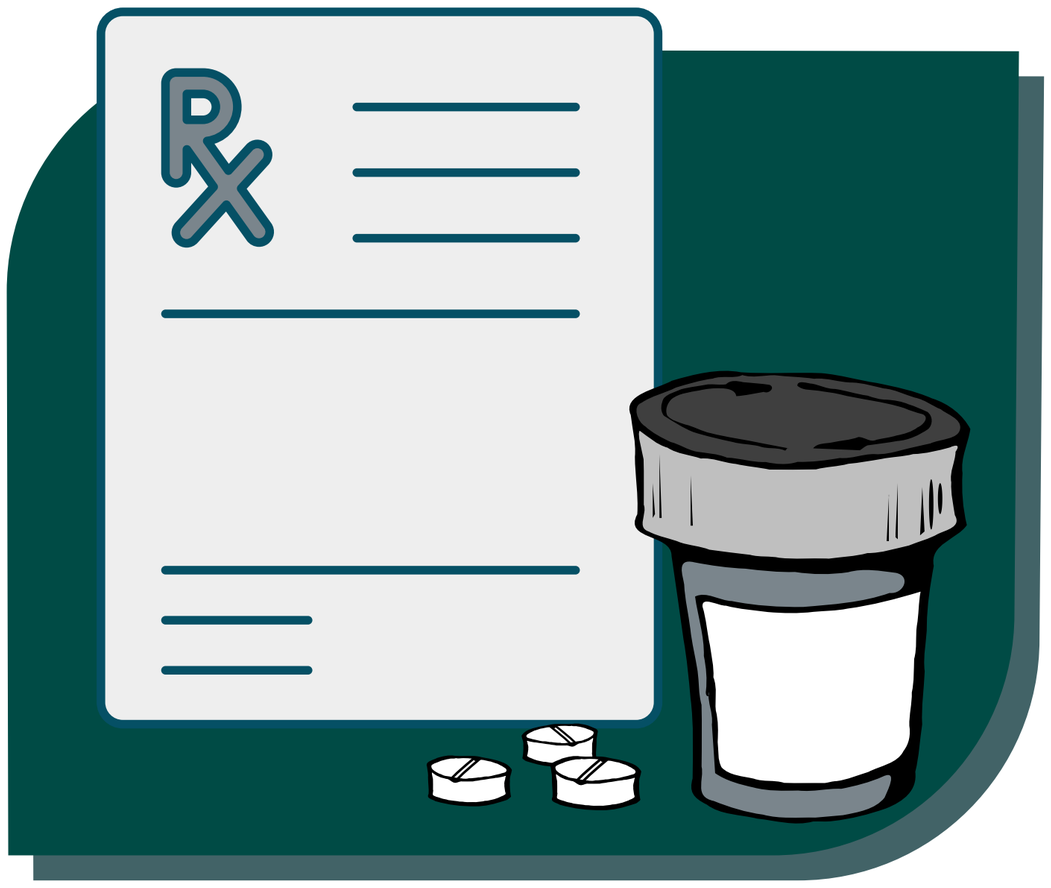
ADVANCED PRESCRIBING A

THERAPEUTIC SUBSTITUTION

Substituting a prescribed drug for a drug that is within the same pharmaceutical class.
Must share a:

- **Mechanism of action, OR**
- **Chemical Structure**



WHEN TO USE

After reasonably exhausting dispensing scope of practice or Level 1 prescribing authority.

May be used when:

- Disruption in supply (e.g. drug shortages or drug is being withdrawn from market.
- Risk of patient harm
- Issues with adherence or access

RESTRICTIONS

NO BIOLOGICS OR BIOSIMILARS

Quantity **cannot exceed the amount remaining or the duration** for which the original prescription would be valid.

Must maintain the equivalent course of treatment intended as the original prescription

A pharmacists **cannot substitute a non-controlled substance with a controlled substance**

DOCUMENTATION

Documentation needs to occur on the PAR - Advanced Prescribing “A” Therapeutic Substitution

PAR must be sent to the primary care practitioner and any other practitioners whose care is impacted by prescribing.

BILLING

Eligible for any Saskatchewan resident with a valid Health Services Number

- Therapeutic Substitution for a Practitioner-Initiated Prescription: **$18.00**
- **Maximum of SIX (6) claims** in a 365-day period per patient
- May be subject to change depending on circumstances

Billing Code: 00951676

NOTES

Back-to-back pharmacist prescribing is permitted if:

- The most previous prescription was an interim supply
- An initial therapeutic substitution was prescribed, and another substitution is needed to switch back or to a more appropriate product

As of October 1, 2026 pharmacists are permitted to prescribe a therapeutic substitution for a controlled substance

This tool is intended as a quick reference to support practice. Pharmacists should review and be familiar with SCPP and DPEBB policy, including general policies for prescribing authority.

Pharmacists **must complete SCPP Council training** requirements and have **conditions removed from their license** before implementing Advanced Prescribing A scope of practice.