



# The Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada

## Le Bureau des examinateurs en pharmacie du Canada

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### COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures

#### Pharmacist/Pharmacy Technician Qualifying Examination – Part II (OSCE/OSPE)

This document provides information about COVID-19 health and safety procedures and supplements the *Candidate Orientation Video*. Candidates are required to read this document and watch the video.

#### Physical Distancing

All candidates and exam personnel must practice physical distancing to maintain a 2-metre distance between people. Exam procedures will be adjusted where needed to maintain physical distancing. You must always be mindful of your movements and where other people are around you. For everyone's safety, including your own, move when necessary to keep 2 metres between you and other people.

Sometimes, you may have to pass by another person for a brief period of time, such as in the hallway when you move to your next station or when you first enter a station and the assessor is sitting near the door. Because everyone is always wearing a mask, these brief moments when physical distancing is not maintained are acceptable. Also, do not shake hands with anyone, including SPs, to help keep everyone safe.

In interactive stations, if you forget to maintain physical distancing, the assessor or SP will remind you by saying, "Please keep a safe distance apart." Being reminded to maintain physical distancing does not impact how you are assessed in that station. In the OSPE station where you demonstrate a technical procedure, the assessor might need to move closer to your workstation for a short moment as you work, but will keep a safe distance apart.

#### How to Use a Mask

Follow these instructions to use a medical mask correctly which is an important part of keeping everyone safe. First, sanitize your hands before putting on and after taking off your mask. Then, place your mask over your nose, mouth and chin. Press the nose wire from the bridge of your nose to your cheekbones so it molds to your face. Hold the nose wire and pull the bottom of the mask under your chin to secure it. Do not touch your face or adjust your mask while using it. Change your mask as soon as it becomes damp, soiled or damaged. Do not tuck your mask under your chin, hang it from your ear, or leave it on your forehead. Remove your mask by the ear loops or ties without touching the front of the mask because the front may be contaminated. Finally, dispose of your mask directly in a garbage bin. Follow these steps even when taking a snack or water break. You may bring an extra *Ziploc* into the secure examination area to put your mask in after removing it for a snack or water break.



## Washing Your Hands

It is important to wash your hands with soap and water correctly. First, remove any jewelry such as rings. Then, wet your hands up to your wrists. Apply enough soap to cover both hands. Work the soap under your fingernails and around and between your joints and fingers. Wash your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds and then, rinse



off all the lather with warm to hot water. Dry your hands completely – take special care to dry thoroughly between your fingers. Finally, turn off the tap with a paper towel or cloth and use paper towel to open any doors as you exit.

## Sanitizing your hands

You are required to sanitize your hands frequently and are encouraged to ask exam personnel for hand sanitizer when needed; for example, before touching your mask to have a snack or a sip of water. PEBC supplies all hand sanitizer on exam day. You are not allowed to bring your own. You are



required to sanitize your hands in the hallway outside each station before entering and again inside the station before exiting. On exam day, exam personnel will explain how you sanitize your hands in the hallway. There may be a bottle of hand sanitizer on a table, exam personnel may pump hand sanitizer into your hand, or some other method will be used.

Proper hand sanitization means removing all hand jewelry, causing the sanitization of your hands to take more time. PEBC strongly recommends that you do not wear any rings, bracelets or other hand jewelry to the examination. Extra time spent removing jewelry and putting it back on while sanitizing your hands is not grounds for complaint.

You are able to handle and use all the station materials and references on the desk inside interactive and non-interactive stations. Your exam centre will sanitize the materials following enhanced cleaning procedures. Remember to sanitize your hands before leaving the station.

The exam centre will follow enhanced cleaning procedures for common areas and exam materials.

Follow these instructions to sanitize your hands correctly which is an important part of keeping everyone safe. First, apply hand sanitizer to the palm of one hand. Then, rub the sanitizer all over the surfaces of your hands and rub your hands together. Rub the sanitizer between your fingers, under your fingernails, into both thumbs and into the back of your hands. Stop rubbing in the sanitizer only when your skin is completely dry. Do not rinse or wipe off the sanitizer before it is dry.