



NEWS RELEASE

September 12, 2014

ISMP Canada releases an anonymous, online Community Pharmacy Incident Reporting (CPhIR) program to encourage greater national collaboration on safe medication use

Toronto, Canada – Today the Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada) announced the nationwide release of the [Community Pharmacy Incident Reporting \(CPhIR\)](#) program. Designed by [ISMP Canada](#), with support from the [Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care](#), the CPhIR program provides an online platform for community pharmacies across the country to share lessons learned from medication incidents and help prevent similar events from occurring in the future.

The new CPhIR program provides community-based pharmacies with a secure, one-stop, online location to anonymously report and analyze medication incidents; export data for customized analysis; and view comparisons of individual pharmacy and national aggregate data. These unique features allow community pharmacists to perform detailed analysis of underlying factors that contribute to medication incidents. By gaining a deeper understanding of possible causes of medication incidents, community pharmacies can implement system-based strategies for quality improvement and help prevent similar reoccurrences.

The CPhIR program contributes to the successful [Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System \(CMIRPS\)](#), a national collaborative program between the general public and health care providers (e.g. nurses, physicians) that has generated essential knowledge about harmful medication incidents — including types and trends, underlying causes and preventative measures — since its establishment in 2003.

The CPhIR program has been successfully implemented at all community pharmacies in Nova Scotia since 2010. "We're very pleased with the feedback from community pharmacies currently utilizing CPhIR for continuous quality improvement and the advancement of safe medication use. CPhIR is a special program made to accommodate the community pharmacy setting; it is designed to learn from vulnerabilities found in the unique medication-use processes at these locations," said David U, President & CEO, ISMP Canada. "CPhIR is a tool that has the potential to change the state of medication incident reporting and help prevent the recurrence of errors, which will ultimately enhance patient safety."

The **Institute for Safe Medication Practices Canada (ISMP Canada)** is an independent, national, not-for-profit organization committed to the advancement of medication safety in all healthcare settings. ISMP Canada is a key partner in the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System (CMIRPS), a program funded by Health Canada. ISMP Canada's mandate includes analyzing medication incidents, making recommendations for the prevention of harmful medication incidents, and facilitating quality improvement initiatives. ISMP Canada works collaboratively with the healthcare community, regulatory agencies and policy makers, provincial, national and international patient safety organizations, the pharmaceutical industry, and the public to promote safe medication practices.



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