SafetyNET-Rx is a continuous and Prevention System (CMIRPS). Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System (CMIRPS) program with support from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Canada. CPhIR contributes to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Canada) with support from the Ontario Scotia, Canada.

A component of this pilot project is to determine the underlying system-based contributing factors to medication incidents in community pharmacies and focus on the need for learning from incident reporting.

From August 2008 to January 2010, 1544 incidents were voluntarily reported by community pharmacies in Nova Scotia, Canada.

The majority of incidents occurred during the Order Entry/Transcription and the Dispensing/Delivery stages – the two most common stages in community pharmacies. The most common types of incidents reported were incorrect dose, incorrect strength/concentration, incorrect drug, and incorrect patient.

More than one medication can be reported for a single incident. There were 1799 medications reported. The top five medications reported were amoxicillin, rosvastatin, lorazepam, metoprolol, and metformin. (Note: It is possible that the likelihood of a medication to be involved with an incident is correlated with the frequency the medication is dispensed in community pharmacy.)

Possible cause(s) of medication incidents: (Figure 3).