



Comments: Regulation – LGIC: Establishing Efficient Pharmacy Reimbursement Policies

(Submitted May 24, 2019)

ISMP Canada is an independent, not-for-profit organization. We analyze reports about medication incidents and often identify system issues that can increase the chances of harmful errors occurring. This helps us to suggest safer systems for medication management and monitoring, including medication reconciliation, medication reviews and deprescribing.

We support identification of system improvement opportunities and identifying mechanisms that strengthen the care provided and patient outcomes. We commend the recognition of the value of the MedsCheck Program for patients that are in “transitions between care” (e.g., Hospital to Home); continuing this service is important for Ontarians.

Our comments:

Many community pharmacies complete a MedsCheck before starting patients on compliance packaging and this practice is recommended by ISMP Canada.

The MedsCheck at Home program supports a pharmacist to do home visits for complex frail patients who are unable to visit the pharmacy. Medscheck at home was identified as one of 3 ‘preferred practices’ for reducing risks of medications used in the home (including the removal of unused opioids and other medications). This finding from a research project entitled *Storage and Disposal of Opioids: Medication Challenges with End-of-Life Care in the Home* was shared at Health Quality Transformation in 2017 and the poster is available from: <https://www.ismp-canada.org/download/posters/CFN-Poster-27Oct2017.pdf>

In a report (and testimony) to the Ontario Long Term Care Inquiry in 2018 Julie Greenall highlighted the importance of clinical services provided by pharmacists for residents of Long-Term Care homes. Ensuring mechanisms to support on-site clinical services is important. The report is available from: http://longtermcareinquiry.ca/wp-content/uploads/Exhibit-166_Expert-Report-of-Julie-Greenall.pdf

Please feel free to contact us if you require more information or clarification about our work or comments.

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