



CANADIAN
PHARMACISTS
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION DES
PHARMACIENS
DU CANADA



diabetes strategy
for pharmacists

Canadians living with diabetes need pharmacists more than ever.



**ARE YOU
READY TO HELP?**

BACKGROUND

Pharmacists play an important role in diabetes management and are positioned to take on even greater responsibilities. As Canada's most accessible health care provider, pharmacists can help Canadians manage their diabetes and ease the strain of chronic disease on the health care system. CPhA, through the Diabetes Strategy for Pharmacists, is committed to advocating for and expanding the role of pharmacists as part of the diabetes health care team.

CPhA developed the Diabetes Strategy for Pharmacists (DSP) to provide education and tools to enable pharmacists to raise the level of care they provide to persons with diabetes, resulting in benefits for pharmacists and Canadians affected by this chronic disease. In 2008, CPhA received initial funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) for development of the DSP. Since then CPhA has received further funding from PHAC to continue and expand the DSP. With each new funding envelop, CPhA has been able to expand the core components of the DSP and work to create more tools and support for pharmacists as they expand their role.

COMPONENTS OF THE STRATEGY

Continuing Education

The Diabetes Strategy for Pharmacists (DSP) continuing education course entitled, *The 'how-to' of managing diabetes...A prescription for pharmacists*, has been developed to train pharmacists to better understand, communicate with and improve the health of their patients with diabetes. The course covers the spectrum of diabetes management from patient education techniques through diet and exercise recommendations, pharmacotherapy, monitoring issues and more. This program is a great starting point for individuals beginning their journey to becoming a CDE, those who want to increase their knowledge of diabetes to serve their patients better or as a basic refresher course.

To find out more about this course, please visit our website at www.pharmacists.ca/diabetes and to view the Diabetes Course Prospectus.

CPhA is an approved accredited provider of pharmacy continuing education.

Diabetes Guidelines for Pharmacists

The *Canadian Pharmacists Journal (CPJ)* developed the first set of diabetes practice guidelines, specifically for pharmacists, based on the Canadian Diabetes Association 2008 Clinical Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes in Canada. The peer-reviewed supplement was published in print and online with the March/April 2009 issue of the journal. It contains a summary of recommendations for pharmacists in the management and follow-up of patients with this chronic disease. You can access the supplement online at, www.cpjournal.ca/diabetes.

Diabetes Forum

The Diabetes Forum is an online peer support forum for pharmacists and other health care professionals involved in providing diabetes management/care services and counseling. This online forum was developed to help pharmacists increase the level of care they can provide to

patients with diabetes, and better implement what they have learned in your diabetes management training programs

On the forum pharmacists can:

- Share information (research, guidelines, practice tools, news articles) relevant to diabetes care and management and pharmacy practice
- Discuss or debate the relevancy, usefulness or validity of information
- Pose and answer practice related questions; much like a Listserv this Q&A section of the forum will allow you to ask questions to a large number of people and receive answers in a timely fashion
- Virtually meet other pharmacists and healthcare professionals offering diabetes management/care services and counselling

You can view and join the Diabetes Forum at www.diabetespharmacistsforum.ca.

Diabetes Champions

CPhA has recruited 10 provincial Diabetes Pharmacist Champions to act as spokespersons, leaders and facilitators of workshops in their regions. Each Champion brings with them their unique experiences and devotion to diabetes education and the promotion of the pharmacy profession. Read their stories at www.pharmacists.ca/champions.

Diabetes App

As part of the envelope of apps in *CPS Essentials*, CPhA is currently developing a diabetes app for your iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch. Selected diabetes tools will be made available for pharmacists to provide point-of-care resources. Coming soon!

Webinars

CPhA is now offering CCCEP accredited webinars. Each webinar will touch on a variety of areas and themes in diabetes care, management and risk prevention to improve pharmacists' knowledge and patient-centered skills related to diabetes. Visit CPhA's diabetes website, www.pharmacists.ca/diabetes to learn more about upcoming webinars.

CANRISK

Developed by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), CANRISK is a questionnaire intended to help Canadians identify their risk of pre-diabetes and/or type-2 diabetes. CPhA has partnered with PHAC to promote and disseminate this tool to pharmacists. Available on CPhA's diabetes webpage in 13 different languages, CANRISK is a great way for pharmacists to start the conversation with their patients.

Disclaimer

The development of the Diabetes Strategy for Pharmacists was funded in part by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of PHAC.

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