PHARMACY IN CANADA

Pharmacy is changing in Canada. Pharmacists are taking on enhanced roles and are increasingly being recognized as trusted providers of high-quality, accessible health care. Given the increasing number of medications, our aging population and the growing cost of pharmaceuticals, pharmacists are key to ensuring safe, cost-effective drug therapy for Canadians.

Accessible Health Care Providers | An Expanding Role

Pharmacists are the most accessible health care professionals in Canada, dispensing and providing advice on 600 million prescriptions a year. Canada has almost 39,000 pharmacists, which are distributed across three major groups - about 70% of pharmacists work in community pharmacies, 15% work in hospitals, and the remainder work in other settings such as the pharmaceutical industry, government, associations, colleges and universities.



38,737

Licensed Pharmacists in Canada



4.349

Licensed Pharmacy Technicians in Canada



9.843

Licensed Pharmacies in Canada

Family Pharmacists

Pharmacists are conveniently located in every community across the country and often the first point of contact most Canadians have with the health care system.

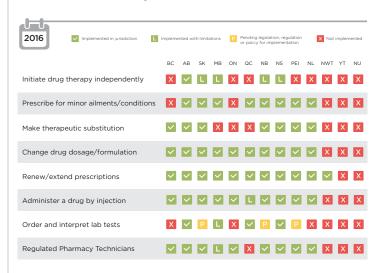
In a 2015 survey of Canadian's perceptions and attitudes towards pharmacists, 89% of respondents said they generally go to the same pharmacy, 51% indicated that they visit a pharmacy at least once a month and 36% of respondents indicated that they know their pharmacist by name.

The pharmacist's traditional role is expanding and pharmacists across Canada now deliver a range of innovative services, including:

- Medication reviews
- · Chronic disease management
- Immunization services
- Wellness programs
- Ordering and interpreting lab tests

Most provincial governments have approved pharmacist prescribing with varying scopes of authority, a service that complements the care provided by a doctor and can result in more convenient refills, less time spend dealing with prescription changes and collaborative medication management.

Pharmacists' Scope of Practice in Canada



While the number and scope of services that pharmacists can provide to patients varies across Canada, the trends have all been the same — increasingly governments are recognizing the value of pharmacists and the key role they play in a sustainable health care system.