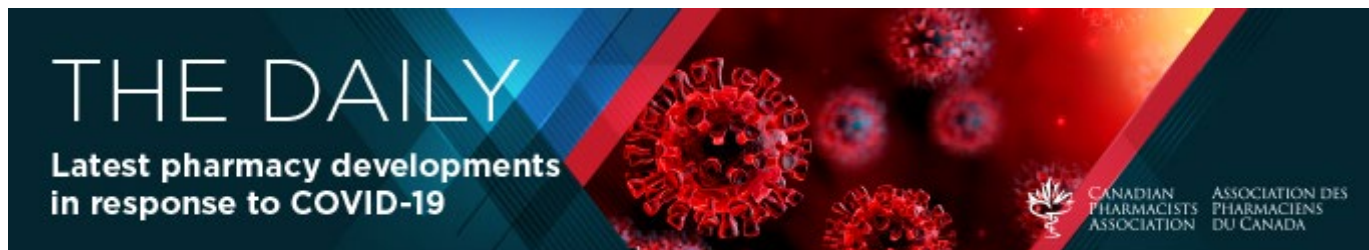


From: Public & Professional Affairs Department
Sent: April 3, 2020 5:09 PM
Subject: The Daily: CPhA's COVID-19 Update for April 3



April 3, 2020

CPhA

New 30-day supply posters available for your pharmacy

CPhA has created new posters for your pharmacy to explain the new 30-day supply recommendations to your patients. They are available in colour and black and white, in both English and French. Download here: Colour poster ([English](#), [French](#)), black and white print version ([English](#), [French](#)).

PPE webinar recording now available

The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Suggested Best Practices for Pharmacies During the COVID-19 Pandemic webinar took place on April 2. The webinar recording is now available for free on [our website](#).

CPhA's COVID-19 web pages are being updated regularly at www.pharmacists.ca/covid19 and www.pharmacists.ca/covid19fr.

Provincial

What Pharmacists Know Now video series launched

The BC branch of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP-BC) has produced a number of [open-access videos](#) on YouTube about COVID-19 meant for patients and pharmacists. The series delves into topics such as use of ibuprofen and hydroxychloroquine and virus stability and transmission.

National

Health Canada adds PPE to COVID-19 health product industry web page

Health Canada has added a [PPE section](#) to its health product industry [web page](#), which gives information for health product manufacturers and distributors on topics such as diagnostic tests, ventilators, hand sanitizers and disinfectants.

Homemade sanitizers may pose risks

Health Canada is [warning Canadians](#) about the potential health risks of making and using homemade hand sanitizers, as homemade recipes and products are becoming increasingly common online. If you have made or used homemade hand sanitizer products, stop using them, as the concentration of alcohol in many of these recipes may not be high enough to kill the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. Homemade formulas may also present other health risks, such as skin irritation, increased sensitivity or allergies.

J&J commits US\$50 million to support front-line health workers battling COVID-19

The Johnson & Johnson family of companies and the Johnson & Johnson Foundation [have committed](#) US\$50 million to support front-line health workers in the global fight against COVID-19. The funds will be earmarked for assisting the doctors, nurses,

midwives and community health workers who are working tirelessly to treat patients around the world during the novel coronavirus pandemic.

International

Ireland: Minister for health signs regulations to help with prescriptions during COVID-19

Simon Harris, Ireland's minister for health, signed [two statutory instruments](#) to relieve some of the pressures on physicians, pharmacists and patients in accessing prescriptions. The minister signed the Medicinal Products (Prescription and Control of Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 allowing for the electronic transfer of prescriptions to a pharmacy via the HSE's approved electronic system, Healthmail. In addition, the maximum period of validity of a prescription is increased from 6 months to 9 months from the date specified on the prescription.

APhA seeks clarity on level of protections for pharmacists

In a [letter](#) to the US Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) has asked for the agency's help in clarifying the level of protection pharmacists and pharmacy staff should have on the front line of patient care in the community. Reports and concerns expressed by community pharmacists have dramatically increased, yet these pharmacists and pharmacy personnel continue to serve their communities without proper personal protection equipment (PPE) and procedures, lack of compliance with social distancing from patients and customers, and the fear of getting sick.

ASHP asks for increased allocations of opioids to treat COVID-19 patients

In a [letter](#) to US Vice President Mike Pence, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) said supplies of injectable fentanyl, morphine and hydromorphone are in short supply and asked for increased manufacturing of these medications. Hospitals are going through these drugs at a rapid pace, including injectable fentanyl, which are used to safely place patients on ventilators and keep them sedated so their lungs can heal.

NACDS survey: strong support to remove barriers to maximize pharmacy's impact

More than 8 in 10 Americans see a vital role for pharmacists in helping patients deal with COVID-19, and with illnesses that could be neglected in an overwhelmed health care system, according to a [survey](#) commissioned by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS). Other findings showed that 76% agree that COVID-19 has shown that public health partners like pharmacies are important and barriers need to be removed, such as some government regulations that prevent pharmacies from being utilized to the extent possible; 74% support pharmacist-provided telehealth services; 77% support allowing pharmacy technicians to handle more administrative tasks so pharmacists have more time for patient-care services; and 79% support helping pharmacists make it easier to get medications through early and emergency refills.

Newsworthy

UK pharmacists facing abuse and violence during lockdown

Front-line workers in pharmacies are being subjected to a [wave of abuse](#) ranging from violent attacks to verbal intimidation such as being told: "I hope you get coronavirus." Police patrols have been deployed to some pharmacies as deterrents amid mounting tensions, scuffles in lineups outside premises and incidents including the theft of one Midlands' pharmacy's stock by masked raiders.

Worth Repeating

"We get exposed to a lot more people. We're front line primary care. We're out there." — Vancouver pharmacy manager Mona Kwong, [making the case](#) for pharmacies to be on the priority list for personal protective equipment.

This daily COVID-19 update is compiled by the Canadian Pharmacists Association. To unsubscribe, please reply to this email with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Please note that this publication is meant to inform and is not a comprehensive list of information available. Be sure to check with your provincial regulatory authority or advocacy association for province-specific information. While we aim to ensure all information contained in this update is accurate, the situation is evolving rapidly and CPhA does not take responsibility for the content provided by other organizations and sources.