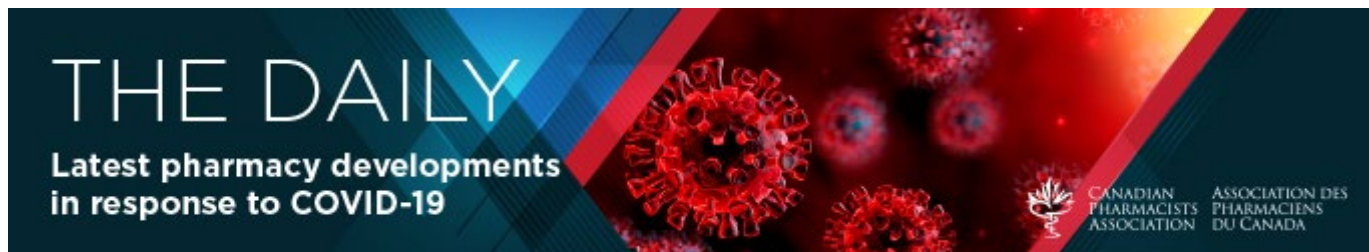


**From:** Public & Professional Affairs Department  
**Sent:** June 9, 2020 4:44 PM  
**Subject:** The Daily: CPhA's COVID-19 Update for June 9



**June 9, 2020**

## **CPhA**

### ***CPhA encourages Canadians to wear non-medical masks when entering pharmacies***

According to a recent Leger/Canadian Press/Association for Canadian Studies poll of 1500 Canadians, 51% of respondents wear a mask when they go out in public, yet only 38% report wearing a mask when they go to a pharmacy. In light of this low number, and in accordance with the latest information from the Public Health Agency of Canada, [CPhA is encouraging \(en français\)](#) all Canadians to wear a non-medical mask or facial covering when visiting a pharmacy.

*CPhA's COVID-19 web pages are being updated regularly at [www.pharmacists.ca/covid19](http://www.pharmacists.ca/covid19) and [www.pharmacists.ca/covid19fr](http://www.pharmacists.ca/covid19fr).*

## **Provincial**

### ***Proxim and Uniprix Pharmacies support victims of domestic violence***

Quebec's largest network of independently owned pharmacies, Proxim and Uniprix, [announced a new campaign](#) aimed at supporting victims of domestic violence, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The current COVID-19 crisis is challenging for all Quebecers, but even more so for those who are vulnerable and at risk during this quarantine period," says Alain Arel, president and general manager of Proxim and Uniprix. "This initiative demonstrates our commitment to play an even greater role supporting and protecting the well-being of the communities we serve." The over 260 participating Proxim and Uniprix pharmacies are able to provide a safe place for victims to contact SOS Violence Conjugale. Victims will be treated with complete confidentiality and discretion and can express their situation safely with trained guidance. During the campaign, pharmacies will have a purple dot on the front door of the secure room, as well as informational posters within the pharmacies to indicate where and how victims can get the support and resources they need.

## **National**

### ***Survey: Impact of COVID-19 on Canadian pharmacy practice***

Researchers at the University of Alberta are conducting [a survey](#) on the impact of COVID-19 on Canadian pharmacy practice. The purpose of this study is to identify the impact of COVID-19 on Canadian pharmacy practice, including pharmacy practice environment and pharmacist roles in Canada. The target audience for the survey is Canadian pharmacists who have provided direct patient care in some capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### ***Health Canada recalls some hand sanitizers over industrial-grade ethanol content***

Health Canada says some hand sanitizers are being recalled because they contain industrial-grade ethanol. The agency says industrial-grade ethanol contains chemicals that may not be approved for use in hand sanitizers and warns that frequent use of these products can result in dry skin, causing irritation or cracking. The products on the [recall list](#) include Eltraderm Hand Sanitizer, Gel 700 Hand Sanitizer, Sanilabs Hand Sanitizer and Walker Emulsions Hand Sanitizer. Consumers are advised to stop

using the products immediately and return them to their local pharmacy for proper disposal.

### ***CIHI report: Race-Based Data Collection and Health Reporting***

The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) released a new report, [Race-Based Data Collection and Health Reporting](#), that discusses the heightened interest in the collection of information to better understand the spread and impact of COVID-19, especially within racialized communities. The report includes CIHI's proposed interim race data collection standard which can be used by any organization that chooses to collect this type of data.

### ***Merck Canada announces expanded support for Canadian communities, patients and health care workers affected by COVID-19***

Merck Canada [announced a commitment](#) of \$500,000 to support those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This announcement includes \$100,000 previously committed by Merck Canada to supply personal protective equipment to front-line health care workers across Canada. The relief efforts are part of Merck Canada's COVID-19 Community Support Plan and align to the company's broader corporate social responsibility approach.

## **International**

### ***FIP webinar: Challenging the narrative on leadership in gender equity during COVID-19***

Women are often on the front lines in delivering health care, but health care policy is often led by men. In an effort to change the narrative during the COVID-19 pandemic, FIP is hosting a [webinar on June 11](#) that focuses on the gender equity gap in health care and how COVID-19 has framed these inequities. It will also highlight women who are taking on leadership roles around the world to make a difference in caring for COVID-19 patients.

### ***RPS calls for face-covering measures to be extended across all health care settings***

Following the UK government's announcement that face-coverings will be compulsory in hospitals, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) is [calling on the government](#) and the National Health Service (NHS) to ensure that this measure is extended across primary care and other health care settings. RPS president Sandra Gidley says "The government must extend the measures announced so far to pharmacy settings and work with the profession on how this will be implemented as part of the new normal. It's vital that there is consistency in the use of face coverings across primary care as well as hospital settings to provide maximum protection from the virus and avoid confusion."

### ***HHS announces new lab data reporting guidance for COVID-19 testing***

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [announced new guidance](#) that specifies what additional data must be reported to HHS by laboratories along with COVID-19 test results. The guidance standardizes reporting to ensure that public health officials have access to comprehensive and nearly real-time data to inform decision-making in their response to COVID-19. As the country begins to reopen, access to clear and accurate data is essential to communities and leadership for making decisions critical to a phased reopening.

### ***US government supply of remdesivir to run out at month's end***

The US government supply of remdesivir, the only drug known to work against COVID-19, will run out at the end of the month, [CNN reports](#). Robert Kadlec, an HHS official, indicated the last shipment goes out the week of June 29. Gilead, which makes the drug, is ramping up production, but it is unclear how much will be available this summer. The government is working with Gilead on "some of their supply chain challenges in terms of raw materials and being able to accelerate the process," says Kadlec.

### ***COVID-19 is reigniting a fierce debate over compounded drugs***

In hopes of alleviating potential drug shortages and other issues wrought by COVID-19, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) drastically rolled back oversight of compounding pharmacies — a swift and sweeping relaxing of the rules that were put in place after a fungal meningitis outbreak traced to one such centre killed more than 60 people, [STAT reports](#). Public health experts say there is merit to relaxing the rules amid the pandemic, but caution there is no reason to make the changes

permanent. Compounders are gearing up for a fight to do just that.

## **Newsworthy**

### ***Key measures for a successful COVID-19 lockdown exit strategy and the potential contribution of pharmacists***

As the world edges towards relaxing the lockdown measures taken to control the spread of COVID-19, governments have started putting in place a variety of measures to avoid a second peak in the number of infections. The implementation of and adherence to such measures will be key components of any successful lockdown exit strategy. Ranging from expanded testing and widespread use of technology to building the public's trust in the post COVID-19 world, there is a role for pharmacists to play. In this [commentary in Science Direct](#), Dalia Dawoud outlines and discusses these measures and the potential contribution pharmacists can make to their successful implementation.

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.