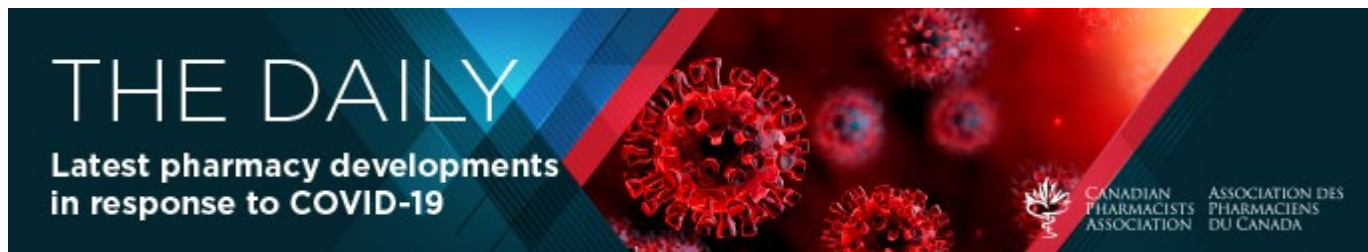


From: Public & Professional Affairs Department
Sent: March 25, 2020 5:15 PM
Subject: The Daily: CPhA's COVID-19 Update for March 25



March 25, 2020

CPhA

CPhA releases statement on supporting and recognizing pharmacists as essential health care providers during COVID-19

CPhA released a statement today to continue to draw attention to the great work pharmacists are doing during this time despite the lack of supports they are receiving from governments. The statement outlines four key areas in which pharmacists require more help in order to continue to care for patients during this pandemic: PPE, health workforce testing, childcare and mental health supports. We are calling for the federal government to work immediately with provincial and territorial governments to provide pharmacists and all essential health care providers with the support they need in these areas to continue to serve our communities. Read the statement in [English](#) and [French](#).

New COVID-19 resources: Patient information

CPhA continues to update its COVID-19 webpage with new information and resources, including practice information, drug therapy information, advocacy updates and awareness materials. We've recently added two visual patient information resources that can be shared with patients on the pharmacy website or through social media: COVID-19: When to Seek Help in [English](#) and [French](#), (B&W print version in [English](#) & [French](#)) and Managing Mild Symptoms of COVID-19 in [English](#) and [French](#) (B&W print version in [English](#) & [French](#)).

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

Provincial

New Brunswick Pharmacists' Association releases COVID-19 Q&A with a front-line pharmacist

NBPA has published a series of questions from the public, answered by front-line pharmacist Kevin Duplisea, who works in Sussex, NB. In [the Q&A](#), Kevin dispenses information and advice on a number of frequently asked questions to pharmacists about pharmacy measures to keep staff and the public safe during this time.

BCPhA asks for prioritizing of community pharmacy teams when allocating PPE distribution

The [British Columbia Pharmacy Association](#) (BCPhA) has written the offices of Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry and Minister of Health Adrian Dix to urge them to prioritize the health and safety of pharmacists and their patients. Due to the worldwide shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE), community pharmacies have been relying on their own solutions such as plexiglass walls, disposable draping on counters and physical distancing markers on floors to protect themselves and their patients. The association is asking that Dr. Henry and Minister Dix prioritize community pharmacy teams when allocating the distribution of PPEs. Other concerns the association is asking Dr. Henry and Minister Dix to examine include requesting that a 30-day supply limit be put in place for all prescription medications in BC, additional direction on community pharmacy procedures following an exposure to COVID-19, and access to COVID-19 testing for pharmacists.

BC pharmacists considered health care workers for COVID-19 priority testing

BCPhA has received clarification from the BC Ministry of Health that pharmacists are considered health care workers for priority COVID-19 testing. Pharmacists who have COVID-19 symptoms are asked to call 811 and identify themselves as a pharmacist with symptoms who is seeking to be tested for COVID-19.

National

Abacus Data releases new survey data on Canadians' state of mind during COVID-19

A new [survey of Canadians](#) conducted by Abacus Data shows that Canadians are worried, lonely and expecting disruption for at least 2 to 3 months. When asked about where they are accessing information about COVID-19, 47% reported that they had watched an online video and 37% reported visiting a public health website. Millions of Canadians have visited pharmacies to talk to a pharmacist (9%), called or live chatted with a health professional (7%) or gone to a clinic (5%) or visited a hospital (4%) to see a health professional. The survey was conducted online with 2309 Canadians from March 20-24, 2020.

Diabetes Canada issues guidance for patients to help prevent supply disruption during COVID-19

To help people living with diabetes and their caregivers, Diabetes Canada issued some guidance on collaborating to safeguard diabetes drug supply and individual patient health. The [patient bulletin](#) recommends that patients ensure they have enough insulin for one to two weeks, and emphasizes that patients should not stockpile medications or supplies.

International

Pharmacy Guild of Australia releases pandemic guidelines

The Pharmacy Guild of Australia has released [COVID-19 Pandemic Guidelines for Community Pharmacies](#) – a resource to assist pharmacies in safely operating and meeting community needs during the pandemic.

Newsworthy

Our “essential neighbour” – the pharmacist

How has the coronavirus outbreak changed life for Waterloo, ON, pharmacist Tony Pham, his family and work at his pharmacy? [Read here.](#)

Violence against pharmacists a growing trend in Australia

“Community pharmacists and their staff are not used to being abused or subjected to violence from the people who walk into their pharmacies. There have been isolated cases in the past but over recent weeks I am hearing of increasing numbers of incidents that are of concern.” – Executive Director of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Suzanne Greenwood, [writes](#) about the disturbing trend of violence against pharmacist and pharmacy workers.

Worth Repeating

“Be kind, be patient, remember that we’re all in this together.” — Myla Bulych, Director of Professional Practices with the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan, speaking to DiscoverWeyburn.com

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.

