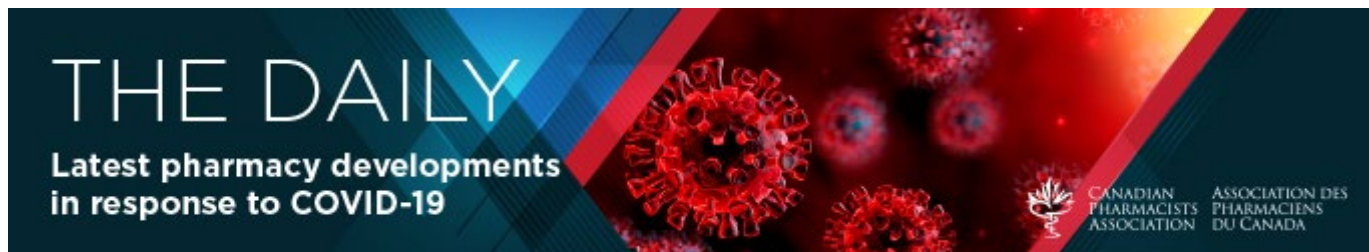


From: Public & Professional Affairs Department
Sent: May 26, 2020 4:20 PM
Subject: The Daily: CPhA's COVID-19 Update for May 26



May 26, 2020

CPhA

Stepping up: Preparing Canada for flu season during COVID-19

In a new blog post for Canadian Healthcare Network, CPhA chair Christine Hrudka discusses the importance of preparing for the upcoming flu season and the need to ensure that pharmacists feel prepared to continue to contribute in this very important public health role. "If COVID-19 has shown us anything, it's that preparation is key... Our next major focus is ensuring pharmacists have the support, resources and protection they will require this fall to safely deliver flu shots to Canadians. Read the blog in [English](#) or [French](#) on our website.

Deadline Extended: National Pharmacists' Survey on Preparing for Influenza Season survey closes May 29

CPhA has launched a [new national survey](#) to explore the issues being faced by community pharmacy in preparing for the upcoming influenza season. Please take 5-10 minutes to answer our brief survey to help us understand and prioritize your concerns relating to providing influenza immunizations (injectable and nasal formulations) this upcoming flu season. While this survey is designed primarily for practising community pharmacy staff, we welcome all insights. The survey is available in both English and French. Deadline to complete is 11:59pm EDT on **May 29**.

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

National

IMC creates Research Chair in Pandemic Preparedness

Innovative Medicines Canada (IMC) has [announced the creation](#) of a Research Chair in pandemic preparedness. IMC's member companies will contribute \$500,000 from the IMC COVID-19 Fund over 3 years to support the work of an early-career researcher affiliated with a recognized academic institution to be the Health Research Foundation of Innovative Medicines Canada Chair in Pandemic Research.

What does the evidence say on COVID-19?

The Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) has created a [dedicated portal](#) for evidence, tools and resources covering a range of COVID-19 topics, including prevention, testing and treatment.

International

WHO drops hydroxychloroquine from study into experimental COVID-19 treatments

The World Health Organization (WHO) says it is temporarily dropping hydroxychloroquine from its global study into experimental COVID-19 treatments, [CBC reports](#). In a press briefing yesterday, WHO director general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that in light of a [paper published last week in the Lancet](#) that suggested people taking hydroxychloroquine

were at higher risk of death and heart problems, there would be ‘a temporary pause’ on the hydroxychloroquine arm of its global clinical trial.

FIP Statement of Principle on the impact of COVID-19 on health equity and vulnerable people

The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) has issued a [Statement of Principle](#) on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on health equity, and vulnerable patients and populations. It addresses issues such as violence against women and children; marginalized, displaced and underserved communities; low-resource settings; patients with underlying conditions; and older adults.

COVID-19 study details benefits of treatment with remdesivir, and also its limitations

Remdesivir, the only drug cleared to treat COVID-19, has been seen to speed the recovery time of patients with the disease, but its benefit appeared much more limited in patients who needed mechanical ventilation as part of their treatment, according to eagerly awaited [results of a clinical trial](#). Initial results from the study, which led to the drug’s emergency authorization by the Food and Drug Administration, were [released late last month](#). Full data were published late last week in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Medicine shortages not just a pandemic problem

Pandemic panic buying isn't the only reason why it has been hard for some Australians to find the medicines they need. [Pharmacists and logistical experts say](#) COVID-19 has just exposed long-running problems within the medicine supply chains that should have been addressed years ago.

COVID-19: Drugs and vaccines tracker

STAT has produced [a guide](#) to some of the most talked-about efforts to treat or prevent COVID-19 infection, with details on the science, history and timeline for each initiative. Supported by Johnson & Johnson, the therapies and vaccines are sorted in order of how close they could be to approval, starting with a treatment in Phase 3 trials, followed by others in Phase 1 studies and then those in pre-clinical development.

Newsworthy

The world needs pharmaceuticals from China and India to beat COVID-19

The biggest pharmaceutical companies in the world are American and European. The top 5 are Pfizer (US), Roche, Novartis (both Swiss), Merck (US) and GlaxoSmithKline (UK). Yet these companies — and the pharmaceutical industry as a whole — rely on [global supply chains](#), and China and India play key roles in the supply of both ingredients and finished drugs.

This 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.