

PURDUE PHARMA CANADA

ANTI-ABUSE AND DIVERSION INITIATIVES

The diversion and abuse of prescription medicines is a serious public health problem in Canada. Purdue Pharma Canada is actively working with government authorities, healthcare professionals and community organizations to encourage responsible use of medicines. Over the years, we have introduced a number of initiatives to help prevent the diversion and abuse of medications.

EDUCATION

Continuing education to healthcare professionals about pain management, diversion and abuse.

- Support accredited educational programs that teach healthcare professionals how better to assess and treat pain, screen for potential abuse and identify common methods of diversion. Accredited programs are developed independently of Purdue Pharma Canada by experts in pain and addiction and reviewed by professional accrediting bodies for balance and bias. These include programs through:
 - The Pain Management Resource Centre (PMRC)
 - Pain Management Preceptorships; Pain and Addiction Preceptorships
 - Primary care updates
 - Programs for pharmacists on recognition and prevention of opioid abuse and diversion
 - Support of educational sessions at regional and national conferences
- Contribute funding to the Ontario College of Family Physicians' Medical Mentoring for Addictions and Pain (MMAF) collaborative care medical network, which supports physicians with expertise in pain management and addictions to mentor family physicians interested in chronic pain and addictions.
- Distribute independently developed and internationally recognized tools to healthcare professionals to help with pain assessment/functionality and screening for abuse/misuse in patients.

AWARENESS

Working together to increase awareness about abuse and diversion.

- Help fund Generation Rx/Coming out of the Cabinet – an educational program developed by the Council on Drug Abuse (CODA) that addresses prescription and over-the-counter drug misuse and abuse in Canada with youth, parents and healthcare professionals.
- Support the Partnership for a Drug-Free Canada (PDFC), a non-profit charity dedicated to reducing drug use among youth through public education campaigns. <note that we removed some text out of here>

RESEARCH

Supporting research-based activities on the nature and scope of prescription drug abuse.

- Research Partnership in the Pain and Dependency Program with the Wasser Pain Management Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. Funding from Purdue Pharma Canada enables the Wasser to conduct independent research into how to optimize pain control and reduce the risk of abuse and dependency.
- Partnership with the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) that supports research to collect and analyze data on prescription opioid abuse in Canada as well as research that identifies appropriate and effective interventions to reduce abuse and its adverse consequences.



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SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY

Doing our part to ensure the supply chain for our products is secure.

- The supply chain for pharmaceutical products consists of manufacturers, wholesalers, hospitals and pharmacies.
- There are very strict federal and provincial regulations in Canada controlling the use, storage and distribution of all strong prescription pain-relieving medicines.
- Purdue Pharma Canada has gone to great lengths to protect the security and integrity of our product distribution chain.
- These security measures ensure that the movement of products is closely monitored, documented and supervised.

WORKING WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

Assisting law enforcement agencies with prescription drug diversion issues.

- National partnership with the Canadian Crime Stoppers Association that provides funds to reimburse regional member organizations for tips that lead to arrests in pharmacy robberies and other illicit activities relating to the diversion and abuse of prescription drugs.
- Produce and distribute a brochure that helps law enforcement agencies identify prescription opioid analgesics and stimulants marketed in Canada.
- In appropriate circumstances, assist law enforcement with drug diversion investigations and provide them with education about appropriate pain management practices.

PRODUCTS

Developing products in an effort to make them more difficult to abuse.

- Research and development for new formulations of controlled-release pain medications in an effort to make medications more difficult to manipulate for those who wish to abuse them.
- Purdue Pharma Canada is working to introduce these new formulations to Canada, but as with all such regulatory applications, we cannot comment on the status or speculate if or when Health Canada will grant its approval.

MORE INFORMATION

Contact Purdue Pharma Canada's Corporate Affairs and Communications department at 905-420-6400.

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