



National Incident Data Repository Safety Brief

New Brunswick Data

from community pharmacies

Reporting period: April 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024

1,375 reports received

Stages of Medication-Use Process

Prescription preparation/dispensing	907
Prescription order entry	787
Prescribing	92
Administration	62
Monitoring/follow-up	21

"Not applicable" was reported in 80 incidents

Types of Incidents (including near misses) (Top 5)

Incorrect dose/frequency	308
Incorrect drug	226
Incorrect quantity	187
Incorrect strength/concentration	130
Incorrect patient	123

The error type "Other" was reported in 149 incidents

Reported Levels of Harm

No error (e.g., near miss)	509
No harm	809
Mild harm	51
Moderate harm	6
Severe harm	0
Death	0

National Learning

New Brunswick community pharmacies contribute to national learning and safety initiatives that incorporate learning from reported medication incidents and suggest system safeguards to prevent patient harm.

A selected focus for this safety brief is errors associated with prescription transfers. In New Brunswick, within this subset of errors (n=15), the order entry stage was often involved (53%), and incorrect quantity was among the top 5 types of error.



The following tips can optimize safe transcription of transferred prescriptions:

SAFETY TIP: Send a copy of the original prescription along with the transfer record, to facilitate technical and clinical verification by the receiving pharmacy.

SAFETY TIP: Include in the order entry process a double check of the transfer record, particularly of fields that lack units of measure and can differ between pharmacy dispensing systems (e.g., "quantity" could be "1" [bottle] in some, and "50" [mL] in others).

SAFETY TIP: When providing a transferred prescription at pick-up, ask the patient to confirm that it is the expected medication and dose.

A key component of ISMP Canada data analysis is a review of the incident descriptions. The efforts by reporters to provide information that helps identify emerging issues and shared learning opportunities are gratefully acknowledged.

Additional safety recommendations can be found in ISMP Canada Safety Bulletins: <https://ismpcanada.ca/safety-bulletins/>

REPORT ✓ LEARN ✓ ACT ✓

More than 14,400 reports of medication incidents have been submitted to the National Incident Data Repository for Community Pharmacies (NIDR) from New Brunswick since 2015.

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New Brunswick College of Pharmacists
Ordre des pharmaciens du Nouveau-Brunswick

National Incident
Data Repository



Référentiel de données
nationales sur les incidents

CMIRPS
Canadian Medication Incident
Reporting and Prevention System

SCDPIM
Système canadien de déclaration et de
prévention des incidents médicamenteux