



National Incident Data Repository Safety Brief

Prince Edward Island Data

from community pharmacies

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

209 reports received

Stages of Medication-Use Process

Prescription order entry	162
Prescription preparation/dispensing	90
Prescribing	8
Administration	8
Monitoring/follow-up	2

"Not applicable" was reported in 7 incidents

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

Incorrect dose/frequency	55
Incorrect quantity	32
Incorrect strength/concentration	21
Incorrect duration of treatment	20
Incorrect drug	17

Reported Levels of Harm

No error (e.g., near miss)	125
No harm	81
Mild harm	3
Moderate harm	0
Severe harm	0
Death	0

National Learning

Prince Edward Island 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. Although prescription transfer-related errors were not reported from PEI during this period, national learning on this topic is shared for the benefit of PEI pharmacies.



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 2,000 reports of medication incidents have been submitted to the National Incident Data Repository for Community Pharmacies (NIDR) from Prince Edward Island since 2012.

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