



# National Incident Data Repository Safety Brief

## Saskatchewan Data

from community pharmacies

Reporting period: October 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024

2,426 reports received

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

Incorrect dose/frequency	530
Incorrect drug	485
<b>Incorrect patient</b>	<b>315</b>
Incorrect strength/concentration	295
Incorrect quantity	271

### Levels of Harm

No error (e.g., near miss)	916
No harm	1,338
Mild harm	153
Moderate harm	15
Severe harm	4
Death	0

## National Learning

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

*In Saskatchewan, the error type "incorrect patient" was reported in approximately 13% of incidents. These incidents included high-alert medications such as methotrexate, opioids, and insulins.*

These errors are preventable. The following are tips to improve patient safety:

**SAFETY TIP:** Regularly check that workspaces where medications are prepared are standardized, structured, orderly, and free of clutter.

**SAFETY TIP:** Request a second unique identifier (e.g., date of birth or address) from patients at prescription receipt and pickup, even for those individuals who are familiar to the pharmacy team.

**SAFETY TIP:** At pickup, open the bag containing the prescriptions and review the medications with the patient, ensuring that each prescription label bears the intended patient's name.



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 is gratefully acknowledged.

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

**REPORT** ✓ **LEARN** ✓ **ACT** ✓

More than 46,000 reports of medication incidents have been submitted to the National Incident Data Repository for Community Pharmacies (NIDR) from Saskatchewan since 2013.

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