



# National Incident Data Repository Safety Brief

## Saskatchewan Data

from community pharmacies

Reporting period: April 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025

2,516 reports received

### Stages of the medication-use process in which incidents were reported to occur

Prescription preparation/dispensing	1,475
Prescription order entry	1,308
Administration	197
Prescribing	183
Monitoring/follow-up	106

"Not applicable" was reported in 59 incidents

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

Incorrect dose/frequency	584
Incorrect drug	461
Incorrect patient	381
Incorrect quantity	298
Incorrect strength/concentration	280

### Reported levels of harm

Near miss (e.g., no error)	1,037
No harm	1,351
<b>Mild harm</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>Moderate harm</b>	<b>14</b>
Severe harm	0
Death	0

## National Learning

Saskatchewan community pharmacies contribute to national learning and improvement initiatives to advance patient safety. Reporting of medication incidents, including near misses, reflects a growing culture of safety in Canada.

A selected focus for this safety brief is incidents where "**patient education problem**" was a potential contributing factor. In Saskatchewan, within this subset of reports (n=117), 20% reported **mild or moderate harm**.



The following tips can optimize patient engagement at prescription intake (for information gathering) and at prescription pickup (for information sharing):

#### SAFETY TIPS:

- Incorporate a pharmacist at prescription intake to facilitate clinical verification, including an earlier double check with the patient (e.g., to confirm the medication, dose, indication, and directions for use).
- Use a patient-centred approach to counselling (e.g., incorporating open-ended questions) for new *and refilled* prescriptions.
- At pickup, show the patient/caregiver the prescription vial contents and label to confirm their understanding of the medication and as a final check for accuracy.

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 54,000 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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