

Talk to your pharmacist or visit the pharmacy department to find out more about hospital pharmacy services.

**The Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP)** is the national voice of pharmacists committed to the advancement of safe, effective medication use and patient care in hospitals and related health care settings.



# HOSPITAL PHARMACISTS

EXPERTS IN MEDICATION THERAPY



## VISION 2010

A dynamic Society  
The influential voice for hospital pharmacy  
Inspiring practice excellence  
Fostering leadership and professional growth

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### Get to know your hospital pharmacists

Pharmacists are medication experts who have the skills and knowledge to provide useful advice about medication therapy.



# Did you know?

- Pharmacists are among the most trusted health care professionals.
- Studies show that patients experience fewer drug-related problems and side effects when pharmacists:
  - manage patients' medications
  - teach patients about their medications

Pharmacists are key players on the health care team in hospitals and related health care settings. Their clinical activities in direct patient care include:

- Participation with physicians, nurses, dietitians, physiotherapists and other health care professionals in medical rounds (review of patient cases), providing information on medication management and desired outcomes

- Counselling patients and their families about the proper way to use medications, as well as providing information about side effects, possible interactions with other medications, and the expected outcomes of treatment
- Participation in programs and clinics for patients with chronic diseases such as asthma, heart disease, and diabetes

## Pharmacists

offer **expertise** and **care** in a variety of settings and specialties including:

- Cardiology
- Hematology–oncology (cancer care)
- Infectious diseases
- Intensive care (medical and surgical)
- Parenteral services (intravenous medication)
- Mental health
- Palliative care
- Pediatrics and geriatrics
- Emergency and clinic settings
- Drug information
- Evaluation of medication use in the hospital



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- Focused review of patient cases and medication assessment to ensure that patients receive safe and effective medication therapy
- Evaluating the patient's medication list before, during, and after the hospital stay, to ensure accuracy and appropriateness (also called medication reconciliation)
- Interpretation of patient-specific lab results to help optimize medication therapy
- Evaluation of medication levels in the patient's blood to ensure that the best dose is being used to help the patient get better without causing any side effects

Other pharmacist activities include:

- Facilitation of research studies investigating new drugs or new ways of using drugs
- Education of pharmacist colleagues, pharmacy students (undergraduates, postgraduates, and international pharmacy graduates), and other health care professionals through in-services, conferences, and publications
- Collaboration with other health care professionals on committees such as Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, Infection Control Committee, Medication Safety Committee, and the Research Ethics Board