



Background

Canada Health Infoway, a government funded, not-for-profit organization, is working with Health Canada, the provinces and territories and industry stakeholders to create, operate and maintain a financially self-sustaining, multi-jurisdiction e-prescribing service, known as PrescribelT®. This national service is being scaled for use across the country, enabling prescribers to electronically transmit a prescription to a patient's pharmacy of choice.

What does PrescribelT® do?

PrescribelT® will serve all Canadians, pharmacies and prescribers and provide safer and more effective medication management by enabling prescribers to transmit a prescription electronically between a prescriber's electronic medical records (EMR) to the pharmacy management system (PMS) of a patient's pharmacy of choice. The service can eliminate paper prescriptions, safeguard patient health data from commercial use and maintain an influence-free prescribing and dispensing environment for clinicians.

Patient Choice

There are three options available to patients as PrescribelT® is deployed:

- **Directed:** If the patient has a pharmacy of choice at the time of prescribing, the electronic prescription will be securely delivered directly to that pharmacy using the PrescribelT® service.
- **Deferred:** If the patient does not specify a preferred pharmacy, the prescriber can provide the patient with an authorized paper copy of the prescription. The paper copy will include a barcode that PrescribelT® enabled pharmacies can scan to retrieve the prescription details. If the pharmacy is not PrescribelT® enabled, the pharmacy will use the authorized paper prescription to manually input the details into the pharmacy management system.
- **Paper:** Paper prescriptions may be requested by the patient and issued.

Benefits of PrescribelT®

By reducing the use of paper prescriptions, PrescribelT® strengthens medication management, enhances patient safety, optimizes existing drug information system investments and facilitates better health outcomes. The benefits of PrescribelT® include:

- **Reduced fraud and abuse**, especially for narcotics and other controlled substances;
- **Easier communication**, between prescribers and pharmacists;
- **Improved patient safety** and continuity of care;
- **Greater accuracy and fewer errors** in filling prescriptions;
- **Safer drug use and stronger medication compliance** for better health outcomes; and
- **Optimized federal and provincial/territorial investments** in existing jurisdictional drug information systems.



Momentum so far

Since its launch in 2017, PrescribelT® has secured agreements with 13 provinces and territories and is up and running in select communities in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador. Plans call for roll-out to additional provinces across the country in the coming months.

PrescribelT® works with 45 community pharmacy companies, with local, regional and national reach, representing more than 4,500 pharmacies. Over 6,000 prescribers, representing more than nine million patients are enrolled in the service.

PrescribelT® offers:

- Secure electronic transmission of prescriptions for all medications, including narcotics;
- Electronic delivery of a prescription to a patient's pharmacy of choice; and
- The ability to send prescription renewal requests from a pharmacist to prescriber.
- Prescriber integrated access to public drug formulary to help confirm relative costs and coverage;
- Secure messaging between prescribers and pharmacists to eliminate fax and phone activity;
- Integration with provincial/territorial drug information systems to contribute to secure patient medication histories; and
- The ability for a prescriber to send a prescription cancellation to pharmacy.

Connect with us to learn more:

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