



Paramedic Association of Canada
Association des Paramédics du Canada

PAC Supports Tamper-Resistant/ Abuse-Deterrent Drug Regulations

Paramedics play a critical role in Canadian communities in the emergency treatment of narcotic overdoses. Prescription-drug abuse is a significant public-health and safety concern. Paramedics treat thousands of life threatening narcotic overdoses each year. Health Canada has a critical role to play through the introduction of tamper-resistant/abuse-deterrent formulation (ADF) drug regulations.

REQUEST: That the Government amend the Controlled Drug and Substances Act and mandate tamper-resistant/ADF medicines as proposed by Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA). In August 2014, CPhA submitted a series of recommendations to Health Canada calling for all opioids and stimulants to become tamper-resistant/ADF.

To prevent those struggling with drug addiction from switching to another non TR/ADF drug all opioid (e.g., oxycodone, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, fentanyl, etc.) and stimulant (methamphetamine, amphetamine, methylphenidate, etc.) products should be required to have TR/ADF properties.

This change should be part of a multi-pronged, harm-reduction approach in combating prescription drug abuse, misuse and diversion

In Ontario, one person dies from an opioid related overdose every 14 hours
– Globe and Mail

Opioid deaths are likely under reported, since Canada has a poor system of collecting statistics in this area
– Canadian Medical Association

There are currently no national level data for prescription opioid-related mortality in Canada.
– Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse



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