

Pharmacist Qualifying Examination - References and Learning Resources

Canadian Pharmacy References

These four listings are all resources published by the Canadian Pharmacists Association (www.pharmacists.ca) and are available in print and online (CPS Drug Information and CPS Full Access) versions.

CPS: Therapeutic Choices

CPS: Drug Information

Compendium of Therapeutics for Minor Ailments (CTMA)

Compendium of Products for Minor Ailments (CPMA)

Pharmacy Textbooks (current editions)

The following references are examples of textbooks currently being used in Canadian pharmacy education programs.

| Category | Textbook | Author | Publisher |
|---|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Comprehensive Textbooks on Pathophysiology, Pharmacology &/or Therapeutics | Applied Therapeutics, The Clinical Use of Drugs | ed. by Zeind <i>et al</i> | Wolters Kluwer |
| | Pharmacotherapy: A Pathophysiologic Approach | ed. by DiPiro <i>et al</i> | McGraw-Hill |
| | Pharmacotherapy: Principles and Practice | Chisholm-Burns <i>et al</i> | McGraw-Hill |
| | Goodman & Gilman's: The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics | ed. by Brunton <i>et al</i> | McGraw-Hill |
| Other Textbooks | Basic Skills in Interpreting Laboratory Data | Lee | American Society of Health-System Pharmacists |
| | Patient Assessment in Clinical Pharmacy | ed. by Mahmoud | Springer |
| | Clinical Pharmacokinetics | Murphy | American Society of Health-System Pharmacists |
| | Applied Biopharmaceutics and Pharmacokinetics | Shargel <i>et al</i> | McGraw-Hill |
| | Briggs Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation: A Reference Guide to Fetal and Neonatal Risk | Briggs <i>et al</i> | Wolters Kluwer |
| | Clinical Handbook of Psychotropic Drugs | Procyshyn <i>et al</i> | Hogrefe |

| Category | Textbook | Author | Publisher |
|----------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| | Herbal Medicines | Barnes | The Pharmaceutical Press |
| | Drug Information: A Guide for Pharmacists | Malone <i>et al</i> | McGraw-Hill |
| | How to Read a Paper: The Basics of Evidence-Based Medicine and Healthcare | Greenhalgh | Wiley-Blackwell |
| | Pharmaceutical Calculations | Ansel <i>et al</i> | Wolters Kluwer |
| | Compounding: Guidelines for Pharmacies | | Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) |
| | Pharmaceutical Care Practice: The Patient Centred Approach to Medication Management | Cipolle <i>et al</i> | McGraw-Hill |
| | Communication Skills in Pharmacy Practice | Beardsley <i>et al</i> | Wolters Kluwer |
| | Pharmacoethics A Problem-Based Approach | Gettman <i>et al</i> | Routledge |
| | Pharmacy Management in Canada | ed. by Hindmarsh <i>et al</i> | Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy |

Free On-Line Information Sources

PubMed – <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov> – free access to primary literature through Medline

Cochrane Library – www.cochrane.org – access to systematic reviews of the effects of healthcare interventions

Rxfiles – www.rxfiles.ca – limited free information is available on-line; access otherwise by subscription

CredibleMeds – <https://crediblemeds.org> – information on drugs that cause QT prolongation or torsades de pointes

Tools for Practice – <https://gomainpro.ca/tools-for-practice> – practice tools on a variety of topics, sponsored by the Alberta College of Family Physicians

Therapeutics Initiative – www.ti.ubc.ca – evidence-based information on healthcare interventions

Medication InfoShare – <http://medicationinfoshare.ca> – information to support treatment decisions for mental health and other health problems

Subscription-Based Drug Information Databases

Micromedex: includes DRUGDEX – drug information database; POISINDEX – information on drug overdoses and toxicologic exposures

Lexicomp – drug information database

AHFS DI Essentials – drug information database

UpToDate – clinical decision support database

Dynamed – evidence-based, clinical decision support database

Internet Resources

The websites listed in the table below provide information on federal legislation and other topics that are useful to practising pharmacists, as well as candidates seeking licensure as pharmacists in Canada.

| Organization | Website URL | Topics/Links of Interest |
|---|--|--|
| National Association of Provincial Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) | www.napra.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practice and Regulatory Standards• National Drug Schedules |
| Health Canada | www.canada.ca/en/health-canada | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Canada Health Act• Food & Drugs Act & Regulations• Controlled Drugs & Substances Act & Regulations (including Precursor Control Regulation)• Narcotic Control Regulations• Benzodiazepines & Other Targeted Substances Regulations• Marijuana Medical Access Regulations• Drug Product Database• MedEffect• Canada Vigilance Programme |
| Canadian Agency for Drugs & Technologies in Health (CADTH) | www.cadth.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common Drug Review |
| Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada | https://www.priv.gc.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Information Protection & Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) |
| Public Health Agency of Canada | www.canada.ca/en/public-health | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Canadian Immunization Guide |
| Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP U.S. & Canada) | www.ismp.org www.ismp-canada.org | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tools and Resources• Safety Bulletins |
| Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) | www.patientsafetyinstitute.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tools & Resources |

Clinical Practice Guidelines

To obtain up to date evidence-based information designed to assist in patient care decisions for the management of specific disease states, several practice guidelines are available. Some examples are included in the following table.

| Organization | Website URL | Guideline(s) |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Hypertension Canada | www.hypertension.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertension |
| Canadian Cardiovascular Society | www.ccs.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various cardiovascular diseases |
| Diabetes Canada | www.diabetes.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes |
| Canadian Thoracic Society | https://cts.stc.ca | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asthma • COPD |
| American College of Chest Physicians | www.chestnet.org | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antithrombotic therapy for VTE disease |

International Pharmacy Graduate "Bridging" Programs

<https://learn.utoronto.ca/programs-courses/health-and-social-sciences/pharmacy> (University of Toronto)

Canadian Pharmacy Skills

www.cpd.pharmacy.ubc.ca (University of British Columbia)
Canadian Pharmacy Practice Programme (CP3)

www.bredin.ca (Alberta)
International Pharmacy Bridging Program

www.iehpcanada.utoronto.ca (Canada)
Orientation course on the Canadian healthcare system for internationally educated healthcare professionals

Continuing Education (CE)

Continuing Education in Pharmacy in Canada is accredited by CCCEP: the Canadian Council on Continuing Education in Pharmacy. CCCEP accredits the learning activities that are developed and delivered by approximately 100 continuing health education program providers. To register for a learning activity accredited by CCCEP you must contact the program provider.

Candidates can browse for acceptable continuing education learning activities on the CCCEP website: https://www.cccep.ca/learning_activities/advance_search.html

For the 'Target Audience' field, select 'Pharmacists' and 'Search' to see the list of learning activities grouped by topic.

Once you have found a list of learning activities using the search function referenced above, click on the title of the learning activity you are interested in registering for to open the Learning Activity Information Form. This form provides a brief description of the learning activity and the contact information you will require in order to obtain more information about the activity or to register in the activity.

Most CE learning modules are designed to enhance individual knowledge in therapeutics and disease state management. When choosing to self-study with CCCEP-accredited CE learning modules, it is important for a candidate to self-assess the wide range of available topics and make selections to ensure that:

- 1) individual gaps in knowledge will be addressed, and
- 2) disease topics reflect those seen most frequently in patient care practice settings, as well as those where drug therapy plays an important and critical role in patient care outcomes.