

Pharmacist Qualifying Examination - References and Learning Resources

Canadian Pharmacy References

The Canadian Pharmacists Association (www.pharmacists.ca) has the following online resources available by subscription:

CPS Drug Information – contains drug monographs, Lexi-interact drug interaction checker, critical updates, and clinical tools

CPS Full Access – includes the content of CPS Drug Information, as well as the content from Therapeutic Choices and Minor Ailments

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
	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
	Stoklosa and Ansel's Pharmaceutical Calculations	Stockton	Wolters Kluwer
	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.cochranelibrary.com – 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 <https://medicationinfoshare.ca> – information to support treatment decisions for mental health and other health problems

Subscription-Based Drug Information Databases

Micromedex – drug information database

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"> • Model Standards of Practice • Guidance Document for Pharmacy Compounding • 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 • Cannabis for Medical Purposes under the Cannabis Act • Drug Product Database • MedEffect • Canada Vigilance Program
Canadian Agency for Drugs & Technologies in Health (CADTH)	www.cadth.ca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug Reimbursement Review Reports
Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada	https://priv.gc.ca/en/	<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-sct.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/international-pharmacy-graduate-program>(University of Toronto)
Canadian Pharmacy Skills (CPS 1 and 2)

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

www.ualberta.ca/pharmacy/programs/certificate-to-canadian-pharmacy-practice (University of Alberta)
Certificate to Canadian Pharmacy Practice (CCPP)

<https://learn.utoronto.ca/programs-courses/courses/3645-canadian-health-care-system-culture-and-context-internationally> (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.