

## **Pharmacy Network News**

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Approximately 40% of pharmacies are connected to the Pharmacy Network.

If you are interested in connecting, please contact the Centre's Service Desk at:  
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### **Pharmacy Network Upgrade a Success!**

The Pharmacy Network application upgrade was successfully completed in August thanks to the cooperation of our connected pharmacies and their software vendors.

This was a very complex upgrade that involved many teams from all stakeholders who came together and worked tirelessly to ensure its success. The ultimate goal was to provide end users with various enhancements and together we were successful.

The upgrade included modifications and other enhancements to reduce the number of error messages displayed to end users, including:

- Tuning and optimizing performance initiatives, which are ongoing objectives of the Centre.
- A change to the validation system so that a mismatch between the prescription and dispense will be a manageable issue.
- Enabling a pharmacist to use professional judgement on whether a mismatch is appropriate and, if so, to use an override to proceed with dispensing.
- Enhancing the DIS drug form validation process so no alerts are returned for drug form mismatches.
- Modifying the DIS to incorporate the drug strength description information which may have been previously missing.
- Enabling Pharmacy Network delegates (i.e., pharmacy technician/assistant) to poll for broadcast messages, as well as send merge/unmerge and delete notifications to the Client Registry.
- Enabling the DIS validation to accept the 'Abort Dispense Authorization Request' (revoke) when a prescription has been previously revoked or if a prescription is considered 'not dispensable.'
- Not returning an error when a pickup is recorded on a revoked prescription.
- No longer returning an error on duplicate prescriptions. While a DUR alert may still be returned, it will not prevent the prescription/dispense from successfully processing in the Pharmacy Network.

The Centre truly appreciated the cooperation and patience of all groups during the upgrade process and sincerely thanks its partners Telus, Aliant, McKesson, Kroll, Shoppers Drug Mart and connected pharmacies for their time, effort and commitment to the Pharmacy Network.

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## Thank you to our Readers!

Thank you for your continued interest in Pharmacy Network activities.

If, at any time, you would like to **opt out** of receiving the *Pharmacy Network News* please contact the Service Desk at 752-6006 or 1-877-752-6006.

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*Improved Health  
Through Quality  
Information*

## Pharmacy Network Stats

Over 10 million dispenses have been recorded on the Pharmacy Network as of August 31, 2014.

As of the same date, the Pharmacy Network had more than 86,000 examples of patients visiting multiple pharmacies to receive health care for themselves and their families. This means that additional medication information was available to pharmacists and other health care professionals for decision-making, had it been required.

The top 10 dispenses on the Pharmacy Network in August were:

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Rosuvastatin Calcium | 6. Metformin HCL       |
| 2. Rabeprazole Sodium   | 7. Ramipril            |
| 3. Levothyroxine Sodium | 8. Lorazepam           |
| 4. Metoprolol Tartrate  | 9. Hydrochlorothiazide |
| 5. Acetylsalicylic Acid | 10. Zopiclone          |

This top 10 list accounts for 53,140 dispenses of the 268,444 total dispenses for the month of August.

## Pharmacy Network Feedback

During recent follow up visits connected pharmacies provided positive feedback about the value of the Pharmacy Network. Some of the feedback was associated with improved data quality from the duplicate patient report that the Centre provides, which allows pharmacy staff to proactively clean up patient files, while not having to do much detective work.

## HEALTHe NL Viewer Use Continues to Grow

As of the end of September, 485 health care professionals throughout the four Regional Health Authorities have accessed the HEALTHe NL Viewer to view a patient medication profile. By Spring 2015, HEALTHe NL will be expanded to include laboratory results and clinical reports and will be available to connected pharmacies. Contact the Centre for details on how you can be connected to the Pharmacy Network today.

## Centre Launches New Blog...*Connections!*

*Connections* is the Centre's new blog that will replace the e-Backbone newsletter and will highlight the many accomplishments of the Centre and its staff. Our first blog posts include a profile of a staff member who custom built an innovative software program, the Centre's recent efforts to promote the benefits of digital health technology and the new provincial Telepathology network announcement. Hope you enjoy the read [www.nlchi.nl.ca/connections](http://www.nlchi.nl.ca/connections)