

For Immediate Release  
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## **The Pharmacy Network Supports Improved Quality of and Safer Patient Care**

**St. John's, NL** - The Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Network is delivering benefits to patients and health professionals across the province. Currently, there are more than 5.2 million prescriptions in the Pharmacy Network associated with more than 280,000 Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. More importantly, there have been almost 76,000 instances when additional medication information was available to health care professionals, via the Pharmacy Network, to better inform decisions about patient care had that information been required.

**“The Pharmacy Network is a key component of the provincial electronic health record, HEALTHe NL, which combines information and technology to optimize patient care and health system management. The Pharmacy Network connects pharmacies and other health facilities with important patient medication information, ensuring health professionals have more complete patient information when delivering care.”**

- *Mike Barron, President and CEO, Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information.*

Approximately 40% of pharmacies in the province are connected to the Pharmacy Network, with additional connections scheduled for the coming months. The recent addition of the HEALTHe NL Viewer is further improving access to quality health information by enabling other authorized health professionals, including doctors, nurses and allied health professionals, to view Pharmacy Network profiles when caring for their patients.

**“The information in the Pharmacy Network is allowing clinicians to make more informed health care decisions, resulting in better efficiency, and improved quality of and safer patient care.”**

- *Stephen Janes, Pharmacist Peer Leader*

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information (the Centre) thanks its community pharmacy partners throughout the province who are connected to the Pharmacy Network and acknowledges the vital role they play in the delivery of health care. The full benefit of the Pharmacy Network will be best realized when all provincial pharmacies are connected. The Centre continues to invite all pharmacies to connect and support continued improvement in patient care.

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### **About the Centre for Health Information**

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information (the Centre) provides quality information to health professionals, the public, researchers and health system decision-makers. Through collaboration with the health system, the Centre supports the development of data and technical standards, maintains key health databases, prepares and distributes health reports, and supports and carries out applied health research and evaluations. The Centre's mandate also includes the development and implementation of a confidential and secure provincial electronic health record, including the change management required to support adoption by end user clinicians.

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