

## Product Stewardship Financing Models: A Look at the Post-Consumer Pharmaceutical Stewardship Association

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| <b>Type of Program:</b> | Brand-owner funded take-back program (mandatory in BC and Manitoba).  |
| <b>Scope:</b>           | Pharmaceuticals and natural health products, including prescription drugs, nonprescription medicines and natural health products such as herbal products, mineral and vitamin supplements (accepted in household quantities).   |
| <b>Status:</b>          | In 1997, the B.C. Waste Management Act – Post Consumer Residual Stewardship, required all brand-owners of pharmaceutical products to be responsible for their products' end-of-life disposal. Starting in 2000, PCPSA began managing the stewardship plan with the Medications Return Program. The Recycling Regulation (B.C. Reg 449/2004) has now replaced the previous regulation. |

### Overview

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Unused medications are a health and safety hazard when stored in patients' homes. They can also damage the natural environment when incorrectly used or disposed of. The **Post-Consumer Pharmaceutical Stewardship Association (PCPSA)** is a non-profit organization that directly administers the **Medications Return Program** through funding from **pharmaceutical and consumer health products members**. PCPSA was established by the industry to comply with British Columbia's Waste Management Act, a law intended to reduce the environmental and public health risks associated with consumer goods, including leftover medications. The act requires producers to establish a system to safely collect and dispose of the public's unused medications. PCPSA has been successfully administering the program since 2000 and now represents over 140 pharmaceutical and consumer health products brand-owners (see the final page for a full listing).

While these programs are regulated in British Columbia and Manitoba similar programs are run on a voluntary basis in other provinces and territories. The program has been extremely successful in gaining the support and participation of community pharmacies. While brand-owners are required to cover the full cost of the program, pharmacies serve as collection sites on a voluntary basis without compensation. In British Columbia, more than 97.5% of all pharmacies are participating in the program. This high rate of participation gives patients access to over 1080 locations to conveniently dispose of their unused medication. Even though they are not required to act as collection sites, pharmacies have found that offering this environmentally-friendly, community-minded service creates customer loyalty.

Several guiding principles have contributed to the success of PCPSA.

- Adequate enforcement establishes a level playing field, ensuring that all companies participate
- The costs of the program are shared between pharmaceutical (both brand name and generic) and consumer health product industries. Payment is based on collected return.
- There is a targeted focus on the post consumer waste stream (as opposed to commercial waste)
- The program maintains reasonable costs as well as effective and safe environmental management
- The rigorous handling standards protect both the environment and human health.

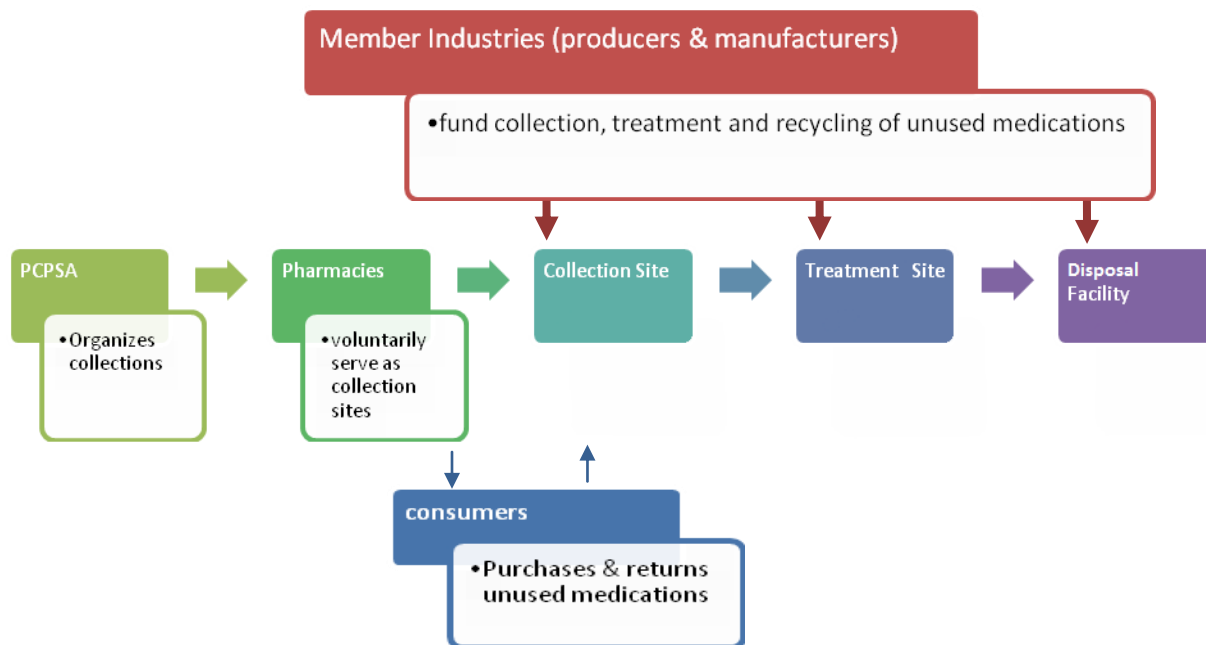
### How It Works

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Consumers can return their leftover, unused and expired medication to any participating pharmacy free of charge. Pharmacies place these medications in a special container and, once the container is full, the pharmacist contacts the program administrator who will pick up the container and leave a replacement within a week. The program administrator tracks collection and stores the product before it is sent to a licensed incinerator. The collection rates achieved in British Columbia have increased significantly since the beginning of the program. In 2009, 4,145 containers were collected in British Columbia. This figure represents a total of 51,205 kilograms of post-consumer waste. If the US were to collect the equivalent amount

based on its population, it would be amount to over 12 million pounds of re-directed waste. Annual reports for the program through 2009 are available at: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/recycling/pharm/reports/index.htm> .

| Entity  | Responsibility  | Financing/ Payment  |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Consumer</b>   | Returns unused or expired medications to pharmacies.  | No fee paid for returning medications.  |
| <b>Pharmacies</b>   | Voluntary participation in collection activity. Collection site registers and receives educational materials as well as instructions. | Assist in safe disposal of unwanted drugs. (They are not compensated for their participation) |
| <b>Pharmaceutical and Consumer Health Products Industries</b> | Provides funding through the PCPSA based on their market share. (Rates are set yearly by the Board of Directors)                      | Finances programs based on collected returns.   |
| <b>PCPSA</b>  | Advertises and promotes program to the public. Organizes collection, and funds medications return programs.                           | Activities financed by member industries; PCPSA is a non-profit organization.                 |



## Safety

Since the program's inception in 1997 there have been no reported incidents of theft or of violence in participating pharmacies. A similar program in Australia operates in over 5,000 pharmacies and has also had no reported incidents of theft or violence related to the waste-collection program.

## Education and Outreach

Education and outreach responsibilities also fall to the brand-owners, but they receive assistance in kind from the British Columbia Pharmacy Association, the Recycling Council of British Columbia, the B.C. Ministry of the Environment as well as B.C. Regional Districts and Municipalities. The PCPSA program maintains an active website where the public can find information about programs and safe disposal options. As well, the PCPSA has contracted the Recycling Council of British Columbia to include information about the program on the province's recycling hotline.

## Other Pharmaceutical Programs

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### **Alberta Pharmaceutical Association**

The ENVIRx program is a voluntary take-back program administered through the Alberta Pharmacists' Association (RxA). The program aims to divert leftover and/or unused medications from landfills and sewers, as well as to ensure safe and effective collection and disposal. Consumers can return old and unused medication to any of the participating community pharmacies across Alberta. Pharmaceutical companies provide financial contributions to the program.

### **Manitoba**

Pharmaceuticals and natural health products are now managed through a Stewardship Program under the *Household Hazardous Material and Prescribed Material Stewardship Regulation (Reg. 16/2010)*. The purpose of the Manitoba Medications Return Program (MMRP) is to collect unused or expired drugs from the public before they are disposed of in the garbage or poured down sewers and drains.

The medications covered under this program are: all prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications in oral dosage form, and natural health products in oral dosage form.

### **Nova Scotia**

Nova Scotia has a formal province-wide program for the disposal of household pharmaceutical waste. The Medication Disposal program allows consumers to return pharmaceuticals to provincial community pharmacies for safe disposal. It is administrated by the Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia (PANS) and paid for by the industry. The program is not regulated.

### **Prince Edward Island**

The Multi-Materials Stewardship Board's (MMSB) Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program has existed since 1998. Unwanted pharmaceuticals can be disposed of at a MMSB-sponsored HHW day. These events are scheduled every year. The program provides safe hazardous waste collection, which includes medications, in participating municipalities. The program also attempts to raise awareness among the general public about HHW issues and helps to establish progressive waste management partnerships with participating communities. For additional information, click here <http://www.mmsb.nl.ca/programs-hhw.htm>.

### **Saskatchewan Pharmaceutical Association**

Saskatchewan has a formal province-wide program for the disposal of household pharmaceutical waste. The Pharmaceutical Waste Disposal program allows consumers to return pharmaceuticals to the majority of the province's community pharmacies for safe disposal. The program is an initiative of the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (SCP). Under this program, pharmacies have to pay for the pick up of the pharmaceutical waste.

## For More Information

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Visit the Post Consumer Pharmaceuticals Stewardship Association Website: [http://www.medicationsreturn.ca/home\\_en.php](http://www.medicationsreturn.ca/home_en.php)

Visit Capital Region District page "Doing our part to keep pharmaceuticals out of the environment": <http://www.crd.bc.ca/wastewater/sourcecontrol/residents/medications.htm>

<http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/2010/016.pdf>

## Participating Brand owners

### Company

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Abbott Laboratories Limited               | Helix BioPharma Corp.                     | Pfizer Canada Inc                           |
| Abraxis BioScience                        | Herbalife of Canada                       | Pharmasave                                  |
| Actelion Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.      | Holista Health Canada                     | Pharmascience Inc.                          |
| Advantage CKN                             | Hospira Healthcare Corporation            | PharmEng Technology Inc.                    |
| Afexa Life Sciences Inc.                  | Hudson's Bay Company                      | Platinum Naturals                           |
| Alcon Canada                              | Indigene Pharma Inc.                      | Procter & Gamble Inc.                       |
| Amgen Canada Inc.                         | Institut Rosell                           | Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc |
| Amway Canada                              | Jamieson Laboratories Ltd.                | ProMedics Nutraceutical Ltd                 |
| Apotex Inc.                               | Janssen-Ortho Inc.                        | Purdue Pharma                               |
| Ashbury Biologicals Inc.                  | Johnson & Johnson Inc.                    | Ranbaxy Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.         |
| Astellas Pharma                           | Katz Group Canada Ltd                     | Ratiopharm                                  |
| AstraZeneca Canada Inc.                   | King Pharmaceuticals                      | Rivex Pharma Inc.                           |
| Au Naturel Inc.                           | Kripps Pharmacy                           | Roche Canada                                |
| Axcan Pharma Inc.                         | Laboratoire RIVA Inc.                     | Ropack Inc.                                 |
| Bayer Inc.                                | Leo Pharma Inc.                           | Sanofi-Aventis Canada Inc.                  |
| Baxter Canada                             | Loblaw Companies Ltd                      | Sandoz Canada                               |
| Bioforce Canada                           | London Drugs Limited                      | Schering Canada Inc.                        |
| Biogen Idec Canada Inc.                   | Lundbeck Canada Inc.                      | Seaford Pharmaceuticals                     |
| Biovail Pharmaceuticals Canada            | Mead Johnson Nutritionals                 | Sepracor Pharmaceuticals Inc.               |
| Boehringer Ingelheim Canada Ltd.          | Mentholatum Co. of Canada Ltd.            | Servier Canada Inc.                         |
| Boiron                                    | Merck Frosst Canada & Co.                 | Shaklee Canada Inc.                         |
| Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Group | Mylan Canada                              | Shire Canada Inc.                           |
| Canada Safeway Ltd.                       | Natural Factors Nutritional Products Ltd. | Shoppers Drug Mart, Pharmaprix              |
| Chattem (Canada) Inc.                     | Nature's Sunshine Products                | SISU Inc.                                   |
| Church & Dwight Canada                    | Novartis Consumer Health Canada Inc.      | Solvay Pharma Inc.                          |
| Cobalt Pharmaceuticals Inc.               | Novartis Pharma Canada Inc.               | Stiefel Canada Inc.                         |
| Combe Incorporated                        | Novo Nordisk Canada Inc                   | Swiss Herbal Remedies Ltd.                  |
| Costco                                    | Novopharm Ltd. / Teva Neuroscience        | Taro Pharmaceuticals Inc.                   |
| Cytex Pharmaceutical Inc.                 | Nu-Pharm Inc                              | Tianshi Health Products                     |
| Eli Lilly Canada Inc.                     | Nucro-Technics Incorporated               | Trophic Canada                              |
| EMD-Serono Canada Inc                     | Nycomed Canada Inc.                       | UniPHARM Wholesale Drugs                    |
| Enzymatic Therapy                         | Odan Laboratories                         | USANA Canada Co.                            |
| Ferring Inc.                              | Omega Alpha Pharmaceuticals               | Valeant Canada Limited                      |
| Gaia Garden Herbal Inc.                   | Omega Laboratories                        | Vita Health Products Inc.                   |
| Galderma Ltd                              | Organika Health Products Inc.             | Wal-Mart Pharmacy                           |
| General Nutrition Centres Canada          | Overwaithea Food Group Ltd Partnership    | Wellspring Pharmaceuticals                  |
| GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare       | Paladin Labs Inc.                         | Westcoast Naturals                          |
| GlaxoSmithKline Inc.                      | Patheon Inc.                              | WN Pharmaceuticals Ltd.                     |
| Graceway Pharmaceuticals                  | Peoples Drug Mart                         | Wyeth Consumer Healthcare Inc.              |
|   |   | Wyeth - Canada                              |