



Newsletter: January 2020

Sneak Preview: CPPI Annual Survey Shows Respondents Believe that Personal Prescription Importation from Canada is Safe and Affordable

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent survey! Your input is critical for helping lawmakers and other decision makers understand the realities of prescription importation.

We will be releasing full results of the survey in the coming weeks, but we wanted to share a few preliminary findings as a sneak preview.

Highlights:

- Overwhelming, survey respondents cite cost as the primary reason for ordering from licensed online pharmacies and would recommend importation to their friends and family members.
- On average, survey respondents reported saving more per month compared to last year accessing safe pharmaceuticals from online pharmacies in Canada.
- Consistent with other public opinion surveys, respondents feel that high drug prices are an important issue that should be addressed by elected leaders and candidates seeking public office.

This latest survey shows that our community continues to feel that ordering medications from online pharmacies in Canada is a reasonable option for accessing life-saving and life-enhancing prescription drugs.

The timing for sharing this message with elected officials has never been better since the Department of Health and Human Services recently released a **draft plan to allow importation**.

[Read highlights from last year's survey](#)

Social Media Posts of the Month:

Facebook

December 24: Insulin [#RxPrices](#) double and cause many diabetics to go to extremes to access

medicine needed to survive. \$1k per month for a life-saving medication is unacceptable. As the article points out, "It comes down to pure greed." And we agree. <https://tinyurl.com/tncqq4u>

Twitter

December 21: Only 20% of [#pharmaceuticals](#) save money based on overall healthcare spending, and about 20% of drugs add cost without any incremental health benefits <https://tinyurl.com/vd4apv4>

From our blog:

HHS RELEASES DRAFT PLAN TO ALLOW Rx IMPORTATION

December 18, 2019

Recently, Health and Human Services (HHS) released draft plans for prescription drug importation into the U.S., recognizing that it is safe and affordable.

While finalizing and implementing the plan could take many years, personal prescription importation already offers Americans an immediate and ongoing option for accessing safe and affordable prescription drugs. In fact, on average, Americans can save up to 80 percent on their prescription medications by buying them from Canada.

This latest announcement proves that the FDA and HHS believe that medications from Canada are safe and they can be included in the U.S. drug supply chain to help dramatically lower the price of pharmaceuticals.

On an invite-only conference call this morning, an HHS spokesperson reiterated the urgency of doing something about skyrocketing drug prices and the potential of importation to provide relief to Americans struggling to afford their daily health maintenance medications.

If you or someone you care for is struggling to pay exorbitant U.S. prices, please [review our guidelines for finding a safe online pharmacy in Canada](#).

For more details on the HHS announcement, please visit [this link](#).

FDA NOMINEE SHARES THOUGHTS ON Rx IMPORTATION

December 5, 2019

Recently, a Senate committee moved to advance the nomination of Dr. Stephen Hahn to lead the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Dr. Hahn is a radiation oncologist and cancer researcher with specializations in treating lung cancer and sarcoma. He currently serves as MD Anderson Cancer Center's chief medical officer.

Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) asked him how he would collaborate with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to implement drug importation from other countries if he is named head of the FDA.

Dr. Hahn acknowledged that Americans have made it clear that high drug prices are an urgent issue that must be addressed and that he intends to make drug prices a top priority if he is confirmed.

Regarding drug importation, he emphasized that he believes the main issue is how to establish a program that would relieve high drug prices 'without risking patient safety and health or eroding the US pharmaceutical drug supply chain.' He added that an importation program also must 'substantially reduce the cost of drugs in the U.S.'

He closed by stating that 'science, data, and the law will guide all decision-making.'

We agree that importation must ensure safety and significantly lower prices, and we believe that the time for action is now. We will be following this story closely, check back for updates! More information on the Senate hearing can be found [here](#).

CPPI: SHOWING AMERICANS A SAFE, AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVE TO RISING Rx PRICES

December 4, 2019

Recently, our Executive Director was interviewed for the Canada Online Health website regarding what we have learned through our community of supporters who import safe and affordable medications from Canada.

Cooley focused on what people can do now to combat high drug prices, stating "Some people don't have many options when faced with skyrocketing drug prices, and those prices are increasing almost daily. Being able to get those medications from Canada at a significantly reduced price is important."

When asked about the biggest challenge we face, Cooley cited the lack of awareness or misinformation out there regarding ordering medications online. Cooley said, "The reality is people are safely importing their daily medications at enormous savings. Our community puts a human voice to the realities of importation and we promote what's really going on. People are savvy. They know the industry, and they know that the purpose of all that misinformation is just to keep the prescription medication prices high. Now people are fighting against those high prices and are showing everyone that prescription importation is working and it is safe, legal, and possible."

You can find a link to the full interview [here](#).

Please take a moment to reach out to your elected official to make sure that they do not lose sight of protecting the rights of all Americans to access safe and affordable prescription medication by visiting our Contact Congress page at <https://personalimportation.org/contact-congress>.

Take Action – We would love to hear from you!

We are currently looking for personal stories to highlight the need for access to affordable and safe prescription medications to policy makers and thought leaders who can make a difference. Please share your story by visiting [this link](#).

About the Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation

<https://personalimportation.org>

The Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation (CPPI) is a national nonprofit patient advocacy organization that fights for Americans' access to safe, affordable prescription medications from Canada for personal use. Tens of millions of Americans – especially the elderly and others on fixed incomes – struggle to pay the extremely high price of prescription medications in the U.S. We are here to be their voice.

Millions of Americans use licensed Canadian pharmacies annually, to purchase their daily prescription medications at an affordable price. We believe that all Americans have a right to affordable medications. It is time to change the current U.S. policy on this issue to provide immediate access to life-saving medications, taken daily for chronic health conditions, at affordable prices.

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