



CAMPAIGN
FOR PERSONAL
PRESCRIPTION
IMPORTATION

Newsletter: October 2019

Here's your chance to share your experience with Rx Importation:

Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation Annual Survey

It will only take a few minutes and ***your feedback is critical*** for helping to share the realities of safe and affordable personal prescription importation with Congressional leaders and other decision makers.

(survey now closed)

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

Question of the Month: How important is lowering high drug prices through personal prescription importation to you in terms of who you will vote for in the future?

Email us your thoughts at info@personalimportation.org

[Please note that we will be posting and sharing your comments anonymously. If you do not want them to be made public, please let us know in your email.]

September - Highlighted Responses:

I strongly support importation of affordable prescription medications to the US. As a retired RN I know firsthand that vital medications that patients cannot afford leads to trips to the ER & avoidable admissions! The influence of Big Pharma on our law-makers & physicians are a scandal. I support the importation of affordable prescription medications from Canada. This will save lives! - *Bb via email*

My thinking on this is that if the US approves importation of Rx from Canada at a lower cost, big Pharma will stop selling to Canada. Since many of these high-dollar drug patents are still in force, generics cannot be made, therefore they are the only show in town. Right now I have a couple different Canadian Pharmacies supplying me with name brand Rx and I'm always scouting for a better deal. Without competition between pharmacies in Canada, I will be back to paying the marked-up price from my US prescription insurance pharmacy, which is about what the Canadians ask when I first contact them before I negotiate with them. There is no negotiation with American Pharmacies or insurance companies, period. So I ask you, what would be the advantage to support your petition? - *PT via email*

This whole thing is a tremendous disaster, far beyond third world countries. Forget buying medications from Canada. Pretty soon Botswana will hopefully help and send some relief Rx. to the US if Trumpitiada will continue. - *George via email*

Social Media Posts of the Month

Facebook - September 14

Big Pharma CEOs target Republican senators with campaign contributions as they aim to lower high drug prices. We want to hear from you! Should there be limits on how much they can contribute?

Check out this review of campaign contributions and let us know your thoughts!

<https://tinyurl.com/y3of7kxx>

Twitter - September 8

A #BigPharma company bought this psoriasis drug for \$13.4b and here's what it could cost you

<https://tinyurl.com/y2bwlpph>

From our blog:

AEI: PERSONAL MEDICINE IMPORTATION

September 11, 2019

Recently, Roger Bate at the American Enterprise Institute released a report - [Personal Medicine Importation: What are the Risks, and How they can be Mitigated?](#)

In the report, Bate addresses the precautions that people should take in order to access safe and affordable medications through personal importation.

As he writes:

...a growing body of evidence, including empirical evidence in this report, demonstrates that foreign pharmacies credentialed by independent groups sell safe medicines. Furthermore, as high drug prices increasingly come to dominate conversations on health reform, politicians on both the left and right are beginning to see the benefits of limited personal importation...

Clearly, Bate recognizes the benefits of personal importation, especially as prices in the U.S. continue to climb! In fact, he offers the following chart to show the difference in prices among various countries:

[Click here for chart](#)

As the chart indicates, Americans subsidize drugs for the rest of the world. Access to medications should be a human right, not a privilege reserved for the wealthy.

While opponents of importation cite safety as the main reason for not importing, the safety argument uses scare tactics when in reality Big Pharma's motivation is to protect their profits.

As Bates writes, "...the reason importation remains illegal without explicit authorization from the FDA is due to economics and politics, not safety."

This really is the bottom line, medications are exorbitantly expensive in the U.S. and it is not necessary.

Personal importation offers Americans access to safe and affordable medications from licensed, legitimate online pharmacies in Canada.

For the full report, [click here](#).

EFF ON SHADOW REGULATION AND PHARMACY CHECKER LAWSUIT

September 4, 2019

The Electronic Frontier Foundation recently covered the Pharmacy Checker complaint against several pharmacy groups in the U.S.

These groups pose as consumer watchdogs but in reality they seek to block access to safe and affordable drug importation by spreading lies and misinformation.

As described by EFF's Mitch Stoltz:

The pharmacy groups' influence campaign against Pharmacy Checker is a classic example of shadow regulation--the use of private agreements with the Internet's gatekeepers to regulate the speech of others. Pharmacy Checker's antitrust suit is an important testcase for fighting back against unaccountable private speech policing.

EFF has a long history of exposing the deceitful tactics of Big Pharma, and these groups represent one example of how they exert their influence by creating a culture of fear as it relates to drug importation.

As Stoltz writes:

...these organizations treat any personal importation of drugs into the U.S. as illegitimate and harmful, even when it's permitted under the FDA's discretionary policy. While these efforts help to stop the importation of dangerous drugs, they also insulate U.S. pharmacies and drug manufacturers from price competition, helping them to maintain high prices.

These groups collectively have close ties to manufacturers, through their trade association PhRMA. Many advisers and lobbyists from the pharmaceutical industry now work for one of these organizations.

If you are tired of paying outrageously high prices for medications in the U.S. and need access to safe and affordable daily health maintenance medications, [please visit this link](#).

The full article can be accessed [here](#).

Contact Congress Today

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 [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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Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation
1220 L Street NW
Suite 100
Washington, DC 20005
<https://personalimportation.org/contact-congress>
202-765-3290
info@personalimportation.org