



CAMPAIGN
FOR PERSONAL
PRESCRIPTION
IMPORTATION

Newsletter: February 2020

CPPI Annual Survey

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.

Our 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 at more affordable prices compared to the U.S.

In fact, more than half of respondents (53%) report saving up to \$199 each month by ordering through an online pharmacy. Eighteen percent of respondents are saving between \$200-\$299. Among people who save more than \$300 per month (20% of respondents), the average savings that they report is \$648.

We will be sharing more findings in the coming weeks, but please check out [highlights from last year's survey](#) in the meantime!

Social Media Posts of the Month:

Facebook – January 21

New Year kicked off with outrageous [#RxPricing](#) hopes combined with little hope for legislation. Regardless of pressure from Administration and Congress, [#BigPharma](#) is charging on through with standard play book of more money, more money, more money... at the expense of hard-working Americans! <https://tinyurl.com/tbkz9>

Twitter – January 14

[#RxPricing](#) increases have officially set the stage for a big 2020 fight!
<https://tinyurl.com/yjesc46q>

From our blog:

[3RD ANNUAL SHKRELI AWARDS](#)

January 9, 2020

Recently, the Lown Institute released finalists in its annual **Shkreli Awards** recognizing the ‘worst examples of profiteering and dysfunction in health care.’ The awards are named after Martin Shkreli, who dramatically and overwhelmingly raised the price of a decades-old drug by 5000% and quickly became known as the “pharma bro.”

Of note among this year’s nominees, the chief medical officer at Memorial Sloan Cancer Center, was found to have violated conflict of interest policies by not disclosing the millions of dollars that he had received from Big Pharma.

His ‘punishment’ was a high-level executive position within the Research and Development department at a Big Pharma company. In fact, it’s one of the cancer drug companies that previously had paid him for consulting work. Imagine that!

The other nominees are accused of equally egregious behavior, check the full list out at [this link](#).

PALM BEACH POST: IMPORTING DRUGS FROM CANADA UNPROVEN, BUT MAY BE ONLY READY RX FOR WHAT AILS US

January 9, 2020

This **Palm Beach Post op-ed** captures the high stakes high drug cost debate and potential promise of importation from Canada. In fact, it is a matter of life-and-death for millions of Floridians, as the article points out.

As the editorial states, ‘too many seniors [in Florida] must choose between high-priced, life-giving medication and food or rent.’

As the Administration moves forward with importation planning, the critical question will be whether or not the right path is chosen to ensure that importation can effectively open access to more affordable medications.

Last summer, Florida submitted a proposal to import drugs that would save the state roughly \$150 million in drug costs. Governor Ron DeSantis pushed for the legislation even when it seemed like a long shot.

Washington is behind Florida and the 23 other states that have passed bills to lower high drug prices. But they must catch up with all the promises that they have made to do something once and for all.

This sentence in particular states the truth: “Given the gridlock in Washington, lower drug prices via our Canadian neighbors may be the best low-cost prescription for what currently ails our healthcare system.”

We agree. As plans move forward, the right drugs at the right price offered through personal prescription importation is the best chance we have of lowering sky-high drug prices.

We will be watching closely as this moves forward.

For the full op-ed, please [click here](#).

NEW YEAR, NEW RX PRICE HIKES

January 3, 2020

Unfortunately, 2020 has not brought the long-awaited fresh beginning to the tired refrain of outrageous price hikes.

Big Pharma raised U.S. list prices on more than 250 drugs this week, according to analysts. Most of the price increases are below 10% and the median price increase landed around 5%.

But wait, there could be more... as not all expected price increases have been announced. Several drugmakers have pledged to keep price increases below 10% this year in reaction to mounting pressure from the patient community and lawmakers.

We will be watching closely as the Department of Health and Human Services recently released a [draft plan for Rx importation](#) as a potential solution to the problem of high drug prices.

Personal prescription importation from Canada is safe and affordable. U.S. drug prices are higher than any other country in the world and there is a solution. Support Rx Importation and let's end the madness in 2020.

Read the full story on the price hikes: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-healthcare-drugpricing/more-drugmakers-hike-u-s-prices-as-new-year-begins-idUSKBN1Z01X9>

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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