OPPIOID EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY INITIATIVE TO REDUCE PRESCRIPTION OPIOID MISUSE

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**POSTER ABSTRACT**

Canada has the second highest use of opioids in the world. Opioid misuse occurs in as many as 1 in 5 patients. High-dose opioids put patients at risk for fractures, road trauma, hospitalizations and death. Physicians and pharmacists are tasked with oversight of prescription opioid use. Many frequently encounter opioid-related adverse events but gaps exist in clinician knowledge, attitudes and beliefs regarding prescription opioids. As well, there is a lack of resources promoting meaningful collaborations between physicians and pharmacists. Designed by researchers, educators and clinicians, the Opioid Education Partnership targets primary care providers, students, and trainees in both medicine and pharmacy using a comprehensive three-pronged approach assisted by advances in education technology.

The three components include: (1) An online education program drawing upon evidence-based guidelines and published best practices, integrating with established adult learning theories. Multi-media components, cases and self-assessment opportunities will be incorporated. An existing physician-pharmacist team is profiled as a model for an interprofessional approach. (2) An accompanying toolkit of resources and practice tools readily accessible for practitioners at the point of care; and (3) An online platform for participants to provide peer support, share knowledge and practice experiences.

This initiative is further anchored by an external advisory and planning committee which includes representatives from regulatory bodies for medicine and pharmacy, primary care and specialist clinicians and patient representative. Ultimately, the Opioid Education Partnership aims to facilitate collaborative care for patients receiving opioids and reduce prescription opioid misuse.

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