



What is Rx for Change?

A publicly accessible database for health care professionals and policy-makers. It offers quick access to current evidence about the effectiveness of strategies and programs that are designed to improve drug prescribing and use.

Reliable information readily available

There is much research offering new approaches to efficient clinical care, but changing clinical practice is often based on beliefs, rather than on scientific evidence. *Rx for Change* provides decision-makers with reliable, up-to-date, evidence-based information to help with the selection of behaviour-change strategies that promote the optimal use of medicines.

Online tutorial

If you are new to *Rx for Change*, our online tutorial can help you navigate the database. The tutorial explains how the database is organized and what interventions are available, and it uses real-world case studies. You can access the tutorial from the *Rx for Change* home page (www.rxforchange.ca).

How to use Rx for Change

If you are looking to implement strategies to promote optimal drug therapy:

1. Visit the **Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) website** at www.cadth.ca or access the database directly at www.rxforchange.ca.
2. Use the **easy-to-browse categories** to select the type of behaviour-change strategy you are interested in: **professional, consumer, organizational, financial, regulatory, or structural**. Or you can search by key word.
3. **Scan the results to find summaries of key findings** from systematic reviews.

Detailed analysis is also provided, including:

- overall summaries of effects of interventions based on the evidence from systematic reviews
- summaries of related individual reviews
- quality assessments and summarized reviews that highlight key characteristics and relevant evidence for decision-making
- links to the individual studies included in each review.

Reviews targeting professionals, and financial, structural and organizational strategies, are defined and organized according to the intervention classification scheme of the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) Review Group.

Reviews targeting consumers are defined and organized according to a unique scheme developed by the Cochrane Consumers and Communication Review Group.



Canadian Agency for
Drugs and Technologies
in Health

November 2010

Rx for Change Interventions Database

Rx for Change Fact Sheet

Information you can find about each review includes:

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Background | Table of Results |
| Inclusion Information | Results Overall |
| Study Characteristics | Results — Related to Prescribing |
| Author's Analysis of Data | Conclusions — Overall |
| Quality Rating (AMSTAR) | Conclusions — Related to Prescribing |

Here's an example of its use:

An organization or jurisdiction decides to address a specific concern regarding the prescribing of antibiotics. It sets aside funds to send out thousands of flyers to prescribers to influence prescribing behaviour.

Before earmarking this money for flyers, the Rx for Change database can be used to determine if such a strategy actually affects behaviour. If the organization finds out that it does not – that the evidence shows that it may be ineffective, or that there is not enough evidence to demonstrate that it effectively produces behaviour change – investment in an alternative method to affect prescribing behaviour may be a good option.

Partners Supporting Rx for Change

Rx for Change is made available by CADTH, in collaboration with our partners:

- Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (www.epoc.cochrane.org)
- Cochrane Consumers and Communication Review Group (www.latrobe.edu.au/chcp/cochrane)
- National Prescribing Service (www.nps.org.au/)
- Knowledge Translation Canada (www.ktclearinghouse.ca/ktcanada)
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca)



Cochrane Consumers and
Communication Review Group



National Prescribing Service Limited



KT CANADA

About the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health:

CADTH is an independent, not-for-profit agency funded by Canada's federal, provincial, and territorial governments. We deliver reliable, timely, evidence-based information to Canada's decision-makers about the effectiveness and efficiency of drugs and other health technologies through a variety of products and services. To access the latest information, visit www.cadth.ca.

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