

RECEIVED 12/12/2024 10:01AM

Mapleview Medical Clinic

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December 12, 2024

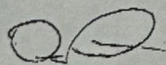
Attention: Pharmacies

Please accept this letter of notification regarding "ePrescribe".

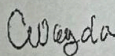
Our office, Mapleview Medical Clinic, will only accept prescription requests and renewals via "ePrescribe". This service provides exactness, accessibility, and promptness to requests. **We will not be faxing in any prescription requests.**

Should your pharmacy opt out of "ePrescribe", the patients will be required to pick up a paper copy at our office, schedule an appointment, or find other alternatives.

Respectfully,



Dr. Derek Rivers
Fax: 289-478-0118



Dr. Charlene Wayda
Fax: 289-478-0137



**Pharmacists' Association
of the Niagara Peninsula**

**Pharmacists' Association of Niagara Peninsula
1882 Niagara Stone Road
PO Box 329
Virgil, ON L0S 1T0
Canada**

December 12, 2024

To Mapleview Medical Clinic.

Many Pharmacies in Niagara Peninsula received your recent note regarding PrescribeIT and we have decided to respond to you as one.

You may have received messages from many of the region's Community Pharmacies indicating they were turning off the PrescribeIT functionality. What you may not know is this is due to unfair business practices by Canada Health Infoway, the company operating PrescribeIT. For the past 7 years of use, this product has been free for all users, funded by federal grants. This fall, Canada Health Infoway informed all Pharmacy users that a fee for continued use would be levied starting January 1. Despite PrescribeIT being a tool used by clinicians on both ends of prescribing, the fee is being levied only against Community Pharmacies.

Like Family Medicine, the funding for Community Pharmacy has been eroding over time. We have not had a provincial dispensing fee increase in over 12 years. In an exchange on CanadianHealthcareNetwork.ca, Dr. Debbie Dyke suggested we charge the patients the fee for the prescriptions received by PrescribeIT. This would be a logistical nightmare not only for us, but your reception staff, we suspect, when we inform your patients they're being charged due to the prescribing platform you use.

Further, Community Pharmacy does not find PrescribeIT is protective of patient safety, nor does it lead to fewer medication related errors. We can provide many examples of nonsensical quantities, discordant directions, missed dose changes and more. We do not find a decreased risk of privacy breaches as we are not familiar with any fax related privacy breaches in Community Pharmacy but are aware of many Health Info Custodians, in the form of health software, reporting privacy breaches.

We express concern around your approach to this platform at this time, specifying that you'll continue to provide the ability for patients to obtain repeats without visiting your office, only if the Pharmacy complies with your platform needs. At present, without a comprehensive EHR or referral system in place, we understand your office continues to send and receive many faxes and so it's not your ability to fax that is at question here. We encourage you to review your stance in the interest of professional collaboration and patient care.

We all wish for a functional EHR that reduces the administrative burden on all medical professionals. We also wish for adequate funding to cover all of our patient care activities. Community Pharmacy cannot bear the cost of enhanced communication alone, as is what is happening with PrescriberT at this time. We encourage you to send your concerns about this platform, its utility and funding to Canada Health Infoway, the provincial Ministry of Health as well as the Federal Ministry of Health.

Should you wish to discuss further, we can make ourselves available for a virtual roundtable. We appreciate your collaboration.

Many thanks,



Pharmacists' Association of Niagara Peninsula