

Practice-Changing Pharmacy Updates: Pain Points & Solutions



IN THIS ISSUE

- [Practice-Changing Updates](#) 1
 - Community Pharmacies 1
 - Hospital Pharmacies 2
 - Natural Medicines..... 2
- NEW!**
- [Regulatory & Legislative Pharmacy Updates](#)..... 2
- [Product Spotlight](#)..... 3
- [Resource Hubs](#)..... 3
- [News & Events](#)..... 4
- [Popular Charts](#)..... 4

Be Ready with Answers About Bivalent COVID-19 Boosters

⚠ Pain Point: Pharmacy teams and prescribers need to be prepared to answer questions about the updated COVID-19 bivalent boosters.

🔗 Solution: Our [Pharmacist’s Letter](#), [Pharmacist’s Letter Canada](#), [Pharmacy Technician’s Letter](#), [Pharmacy Technician’s Letter Canada](#), [Hospital Pharmacist’s Letter](#), [Hospital Pharmacy Technician’s Letter](#), and [Prescriber’s Letter](#) articles provide the answers that pharmacy teams and prescribers will need at their fingertips during this busy fall season. Guidance is provided about which patients should get a bivalent booster, the ideal timing for a booster, and whether it’s okay to coadminister COVID-19 boosters with other vaccines (flu, etc). Our resource, [COVID-19 Vaccines](#), has a side-by-side comparison of approved ages, dosing, and storage requirements. This resource will be a critical tool to help prevent errors and confusion between products.

Community Pharmacies

Sort Through Specifics of Sulfa Allergies

⚠ Pain Point: There continues to be confusion about what a “sulfa” allergy is and when to worry about cross-reactivity between sulfonamide medications.

🔗 Solution: Our [Pharmacist’s Letter](#), [Pharmacist’s Letter Canada](#), [Pharmacy Technician’s Letter](#), [Pharmacy Technician’s Letter Canada](#), [Hospital Pharmacist’s Letter](#), [Hospital Pharmacy Technician’s Letter](#), and [Prescriber’s Letter](#) articles describe how to handle these alerts using a stepwise approach. Clear-cut advice is given about how to gather necessary details from the patient, identify the type of sulfonamide, and take appropriate action depending on the severity of the reaction. Our resource, [Sulfa Drugs and the Sulfa-Allergic Patient](#), has a more detailed list of sulfonamide drugs, along with other evidence related to cross-reactivity.

Hospital Pharmacies

Verify Safety Strategies in Peri-Op Areas

⚠ Pain Point: Med error risk is high in perioperative areas, and it can be especially challenging to implement the usual safety strategies due to differences from other patient care areas.

🔄 Solution: Our [Hospital Pharmacist's Letter](#) and [Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#) articles provide information about med errors in perioperative areas, such as meds that are likely to be involved, types of errors that are most common, and an estimated error rate. Advice is given on where pharmacy staff can focus attention to help reduce error risk, along with practical examples to help reinforce this advice. Our resource, [Dispensing Meds for Surgeries](#), gives a broad overview of med use in perioperative areas, including meds that may not be commonly dispensed to other patient care units and special considerations with these meds.

Natural Medicines

Does Psilocybin Reduce Heavy Drinking?

⚠ Pain Point: Psychedelics have been making headlines this year, with some recent news reports suggesting they may be useful for alcohol use disorder. New research does suggest possible promise, but it should be interpreted with caution.

🔄 Solution: These headlines refer to a new study that evaluated the use of psilocybin (the active chemical in magic mushrooms) in people with alcohol dependence. Our [Natural Medicines](#) article explains how the study found that taking two doses of psilocybin three weeks apart modestly reduced overall alcohol use when compared with diphenhydramine. Although these findings are encouraging, the study had multiple issues. For example, the patients in this study were able to accurately guess which treatment they received, introducing a possible placebo effect. We discuss this and other limitations in this article.



Regulatory & Legislative Pharmacy Updates



Stay Compliant in Abortifacient Law

With over 50 abortifacient-related law changes introduced within just the last 6 months and more on the way, it's important that your pharmacy is staying compliant. Recently, Bula introduced a new topic tag, "Dispensing Abortifacients" to allow users to stay on top of the latest activity specifically involving abortifacient-related laws.

Here's a peek at a few of the topics covered under the Dispensing Abortifacients tag:

- Access to mail-ordered abortifacients
- In-person prescribing restrictions (telehealth)
- Prescribing authority
- Criminalization for dispensing abortifacients

For full access to this information, [contact us](#).

Bula Intelligence is the leading resource solely focused on helping pharmacy clients maintain compliance.



Product Spotlight: RxAdvanced

Training tools that help save time and money can help ease added stress and pressure that pharmacies may be feeling. [RxAdvanced](#) is the perfect solution for pharmacies that want to ensure their pharmacists remain competent, knowledgeable, and well-informed without feeling run-down and burned-out.

[RxAdvanced](#) provides pharmacies with eight high-quality, evidence-based training programs that focus on critical subjects needed to provide patients with safe, reliable care. And empowers pharmacists as leaders to create a positive, efficient environment for pharmacy staff and patients. Designed as an interactive, online format, the courses offer CE credit from an ACPE-accredited provider. Available programs include:

1. Anticoagulation Management
2. Antimicrobial Stewardship
3. Guide to Cannabis
4. Guide to Natural Medicines
5. Hazardous Drugs
6. Leadership & Communication
7. Opioid Stewardship
8. Sterile Compounding

RxAdvanced is a great alternative to in-house training programs. Plus, it's affordable and easy to implement. It also includes access to the Learning Management Portal for administrators to manage users, request assignments, run completion reports, and benchmark improvements, as well as the CE/CME & Training Organizer for pharmacists to view assignments and track CE required for license renewal.

Learn how RxAdvanced can support your pharmacy, [get a quote today!](#)

Resource Hubs You Might Be Missing

Did you know that we have four resource hubs available to our subscribers? Our resource hubs are packed with the latest recommendations, clinical resources, and other guidance on how your pharmacy can better assist patient concerns and overall health.



**COVID-19
Resource Hub**
[VISIT HUB](#)



**Diabetes
Resource Hub**
[VISIT HUB](#)



**Immunization
Resource Hub**
[VISIT HUB](#)



**Natural Medicine
Resource Hub**
[VISIT HUB](#)



News & Events

Hot Topic Webinar: *Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters*

This month's TRC Hot Topic on-demand webinar features an expert panel discussion and clinical guidance on bivalent COVID-19 vaccine boosters.

[Watch the webinar.](#)

Check out our other on-demand webinars here.

Our Most Popular Charts for October



- Hospital Pharmacist's Letter: [Vancomycin Dosing and Monitoring for Adults](#)
- Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter: [Investigating Possible Drug Allergy or Sensitivity](#)
- Pharmacist's Letter: [Managing NSAID Risks](#)
- Pharmacist's Letter Canada: [Vaccinating Immunocompromised Patients](#)
- Pharmacy Technician's Letter: [Treatments for Plaque Psoriasis](#)
- Pharmacy Technician's Letter Canada: [Keep it Cool: Storing Meds in the Fridge or Freezer](#)
- Prescriber's Letter: [Flu Vaccines for 2022-23](#)