

HPSA News Bulletin

SPRING | 2020



HEALTH PRODUCTS
STEWARDSHIP ASSOCIATION

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PROVINCE - MANITOBA

MEDICATIONS RETURN PROGRAM



MEDICATIONS
RETURN PROGRAM

ACCEPTED

- ✓ Prescription drugs
- ✓ Non-prescription drugs
- ✓ Natural health products

NOT ACCEPTED

- ✗ Medical sharps, needles, syringes and lancets
- ✗ Commercial and institutional waste
- ✗ Empty pill bottles or other containers
- ✗ Cosmetics and beauty products

For a full listing visit our website

The numbers are in!

2019 was a very positive year for HPSA and its partners. Total national medication returns increased over the previous year, reaching 432,882 kg with the support of more than 5,700 collection location sites.

The Manitoba Medications Return Program (MMRP) collected a total of 18,447 kg of medications across HPSA's network of 344 collection location sites in Manitoba.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the pharmacists and pharmacy staff who continue to volunteer their time and expertise in the collection of consumer returns. Thank you for your participation and efforts in promoting proper disposal and preventing misuse.

The 2019 MMRP Annual Report can be found [here](#).

HPSA is open!

Please be advised that HPSA and its service providers are operating as usual. Should you wish to request pick up services and supplies, please fill out a form [here](#). The HPSA staff is here to answer any questions at 1-844-535-8889.

2019 – Promotions and Activities

HPSA continues to focus on education and promotion of our return programs through various marketing efforts and external partnerships, including with you, our pharmacy network. The major initiatives started the previous year continued in 2019 with Drug Free Kids Canada and the Institute for Safe Medication Practice Canada. The many activities and outreach centred around raising consumer awareness about the risks of unused medications at home, proper storage and safe disposal options. Campaigns like these and National Drop Off Month in August do help in changing consumer's behaviour.

We heard you!

In the fall of 2019, HPSA deployed a survey to all HPSA registered pharmacies across Manitoba to learn how the medications return program can be better supported. The main finding was that pharmacies would like more information materials available at their pharmacies. We increased the distribution of bookmarks and rack cards. Should you require additional material, the order form can be found [here](#)

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