



MedsCheck and Pharmaceutical Opinion Programs

A research project evaluating the quality and impact of Ontario's MedsCheck Annual, MedsCheck Diabetes and Pharmaceutical Opinion Programs — medication review and physician consultation services provided by community pharmacists

Known as OPEN, the Ontario Pharmacy Research Collaboration is a \$5.77 million multi-institutional and interdisciplinary research program comprised of a number of projects that are examining the quality, outcomes and value of new and emerging medication management services that pharmacists and other healthcare professionals provide.

MedsCheck and Pharmaceutical Opinion Program

The primary goal of this mixed-methods OPEN project is to determine the quality and impact of Ontario's MedsCheck Annual, MedsCheck for Diabetes and Pharmaceutical Opinion Programs on patients, physicians, pharmacists and the pharmacies where they work. Its secondary goals are to assess if these medication therapy management services are reaching patients most likely to benefit from them and to identify what factors determine service uptake.

Opportunities for students

Undergraduate and graduate students on OPEN's projects are provided with individual and collaborative experiential and applied-learning opportunities to develop and enhance their training and research skills.

Student training focuses on pharmacy practice and health service research knowledge and skills. Importantly, students learn from and network with other researchers, their peers and knowledge users, strengthening research rigour as findings are put into practice.

Research based, knowledge-user driven

OPEN has strong ties to individuals from partner organizations who apply project results to improve pharmacy practice, the effectiveness of services pharmacists provide to patients, and healthcare quality.

MedsCheck Annual services research partner

OPEN is working closely with the Toronto Health Economics and Technology Assessment Collaborative (THETA). Through this partnership, OPEN and THETA are sharing information, avoiding duplication and aligning data requirements for submission to ICES to conduct database analyses of the MedsCheck Annual services.

Project researchers

Project leads: Drs. Linda MacKeigan, University of Toronto, and Lisa Dolovich, McMaster University

Project members: Drs. Suzanne Cadarette, Lori MacCallum, Nedzad Pojskic, University of Toronto

Would you like to learn more?

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