

## Educational Resource: Prescribing resources are just a click away

With the internet at our fingertips, there is no limit to the resources people can find on any topic and sometimes, finding the right ones can be overwhelming. Below you'll find some key resources we recommend to help Alberta's physicians in their prescribing practice.

### CPSA resources

CPSA has compiled extensive prescribing resources for physicians. These can be found on our website under Physician Prescribing Practices: Prescribing Resources and Tools: [www.cpsa.ca/your-practice/prescribing-resources-tools/](http://www.cpsa.ca/your-practice/prescribing-resources-tools/).

These resources, which focus on opioid, benzodiazepine and Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) prescribing, include:

- Practice guidelines
- Summary documents
- Practice support tools
- Continuing Professional Development (CPD) resources

More resources on OAT can be found on our Opioid Agonist Treatment Program webpage: [www.cpsa.ca/physician-prescribing-practices/methadone-program/](http://www.cpsa.ca/physician-prescribing-practices/methadone-program/). Here, you will find:

- OAT clinics in Alberta: [www.cpsa.ca/physician-prescribing-practices/methadone-program/methadone-clinics-alberta/](http://www.cpsa.ca/physician-prescribing-practices/methadone-program/methadone-clinics-alberta/)
- Information on methadone and buprenorphine/naloxone prescribing
- FAQs
- Even more resources!

### External prescribing resources

The Alberta College of Family Physicians' Opioid Response: [acfp.ca/tools-resources/tools-resources-opioid-response/](http://acfp.ca/tools-resources/tools-resources-opioid-response/)

Alberta Health Services' Drug Safe: [www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/page12491.aspx](http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/info/page12491.aspx)

### COVID-19 resources

CPSA's guidance for physicians on COVID-19 can be found here: [www.cpsa.ca/resources-for-physicians-during-covid-19/](http://www.cpsa.ca/resources-for-physicians-during-covid-19/)

The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) has information on the impacts of COVID-19 on substance use, including recordings of past webinars, and much more: [www.ccsa.ca/](http://www.ccsa.ca/)

## Where to access population level data for Alberta

TPP Alberta: [www.cpsa.ca/tpp/](http://www.cpsa.ca/tpp/)

TPP Alberta's 2019 Atlas provides an overview of provincial opioid and benzodiazepine/Z-drug use. This latest version includes an expanded exploration of concurrent consumption, analyses of seasonal patterns, top ingredients by practitioner types and geographical trends: [www.cpsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/AB-TPP-Atlas.pdf](http://www.cpsa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/AB-TPP-Atlas.pdf)

Alberta Health released the Alberta Substance Use Surveillance System in December 2020. The online dashboard includes 14 tabs of searchable data related to substance use (beyond opioids). Data comes from a variety of sources, including the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, the Pharmaceutical Information Network (Netcare), community organizations like those who distribute Naloxone, Alberta Health Services and treatment programs: [www.alberta.ca/substance-use-surveillance-data.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/substance-use-surveillance-data.aspx)

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## MD Snapshot-Prescribing Overview

**MD Snapshot-Prescribing** is a tool for self-reflection and education, with the dual purpose of increasing your prescribing awareness and supporting you in optimizing care for your patients.

**The Prescribing Snapshot** is your customized prescribing profile, generated using data for [TPP Alberta](#) monitored medications, received from Netcare's Pharmaceutical Information Network (PIN).

Broken down across two prescribing domains (opioids and benzodiazepine/Z-drugs), prescribing data is captured on dispensed daily doses, multiple prescribers and other high-risk measures. The **benchmarks** used in MD Snapshot-Prescribing are informed by guidelines, evidence of risk and best-practice recommendations.

In addition to your prescribing profile, additional resources are provided with your MD Snapshot-Prescribing. Supporting Materials accessible in the Analytics section of your Physician Portal include:

- [The Analytics Manual](#)
- [Comparator Group information](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Glossary of Terms](#)
- [An OME/DDD reference](#)

**Educational resources** follow this Overview and are now readily accessible from the [Prescribing Companion link](#), in the new *Did you know?* section on the Analytics main page.

### Claiming Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits

**MOC:** Reviewing your Snapshot qualifies for non-certified CME credits under the RCPSC's "Assessment" category of credit. Visit [www.royalcollege.ca](http://www.royalcollege.ca) and complete the following:

1. Select section 3 "Assessment Activities".
2. Select "Practice Assessment" from the drop down menu that will appear after Step 1.
3. Answer questions regarding the activity (focus, length of time spent, self-reflection considerations, etc.).
4. Submit.

**Mainpro+:** Members of the CFPC can claim Mainpro+ credits in one of two ways, by visiting [www.cfpc.ca](http://www.cfpc.ca):

1. Claim non-certified credits under the CFPC "Assessment" category of credit.
2. Complete a Linking Learning Assessment Exercise for 5 Mainpro+ certified credits.

**Example of a Linking Learning Assessment Exercise:**

Select 5 or more patients and for each of them, ask yourself the following:

1. Is the therapy indicated and appropriate?
2. Are there safer pharmaceutical and/or non-pharmaceutical options available?
3. Can I further optimize prescribing for my patient?

## MD Snapshot feedback

If you have any questions about your Prescribing Snapshot or would like to provide feedback or suggestions, please contact us by:

- Using the secure "Report an Issue" function in the Physician Portal.
- Sending an email to [CC.Inquiries@cpsa.ab.ca](mailto:CC.Inquiries@cpsa.ab.ca) . Please note that for privacy reasons, patient-specific details should not be included in any emails.
- Calling 780-969-4935 or 1-800-561-3899 (extension 4935).