

Report on November NPDUIS Meeting

The National Prescription Drug Utilization Information System (NPDUIS) initiative is a partnership between the PMPRB and the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI). PMPRB's role in NPDUIS is to provide critical analyses on price, utilization and cost trends in Canada to support drug plan policy decision-making for participating federal, provincial and territorial governments.

The federal, provincial, territorial NPDUIS Steering Committee met in Ottawa on November 3, 2009. The meeting was attended by representatives of the public drug plans in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Yukon, as well representatives from the PMPRB, CIHI, and Health Canada. During the morning session, PMPRB Staff presented preliminary results of research underway and brought forward new research proposals for consideration.

In the afternoon, the NPDUIS Steering Committee held a joint meeting with members of the Pharmaceutical Policy Research Collaboration (PPRC), a network of academic researchers funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and

led by Professor Steve Morgan of the University of British Columbia. The meeting provided policy makers and researchers with an excellent opportunity to share ideas and exchange information, leverage existing knowledge, and identify common priorities for future policy research.

On behalf of the NPDUIS Steering Committee, the PMPRB would like to thank the following members of the PPRC group for attending the joint meeting: Régis Blais (Université de Montréal), Colleen Cunningham (University of British Columbia), Marc-André Gagnon (Université de Montréal), Paul Grootendorst (University of Toronto), David Henry (Institute for Clinical Evaluation Sciences), Anne Holbrook (McMaster University), Michael Law (University of British Columbia), Joel Lexchin (York University), Neil MacKinnon (Dalhousie University), Barbara Mintzes (University of British Columbia), Steve Morgan (University of British Columbia), Marie-Pascale Pomey (Université de Montréal), Ingrid Sketris (Dalhousie University), and Robyn Tamblyn (McGill University).

The NPDUIS Steering Committee held a teleconference call on January 14, 2010, in which the PMPRB Staff provided a status update on current research projects. ■