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**Survey Shows Importation from Canada Provides a Safe and Affordable Solution for Accessing Prescription Medications**

*Seventy-nine percent of respondents cite cost as primary reason for ordering from licensed online pharmacies;
98 percent of respondents would recommend personal prescription importation to their friends and family members*

WASHINGTON DC, December 5, 2017 – The Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation (CPPI) today released results of a survey illustrating the reality that many Americans continue to purchase their personal prescriptions from licensed and legitimate online pharmacies in Canada, safely and at considerable cost savings.

“Millions of people have been accessing prescription medication this way for many years, as they have learned that there are affordable and safe options to avoid the outrageous prices of pharmaceuticals in the U.S.,” said Tracy Cooley, executive director of the Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation. “While counterfeit medications sold through rogue websites are a serious concern, licensed and legitimate online pharmacies in Canada have a long track record of selling the same medications as those available in this country for considerably less money.”

CPPI conducted this online survey between August 14 and October 12, 2017. Based on the universe of followers of CPPI, this sample of 2,851 responses represents findings with a sampling error of plus or minus 5 percent. Below are highlighted findings from our national survey:

* The majority of respondents (79 percent) cite cost as the primary reason that they order their medications from an online pharmacy in Canada. The other reasons cited include consistency in pricing (7 percent); convenience (5 percent); consistency in availability (5 percent); and lack of availability in the U.S. (4 percent).
* The majority of respondents (75 percent) spend less than $199 per month ordering personal prescriptions from licensed online pharmacies in Canada. Fourteen percent of respondents spend between $200-$299 and 10 percent spend more than $300. Among people who reported spending more than $300, the average amount they reported spending is $502 per month.
* More than 60 percent of survey respondents report saving $100 or more each month by ordering through an online pharmacy, compared to what they would spend by purchasing their medications in the U.S. Among people who spend more than $300 per month (14 percent of respondents), the average savings that they report is $870.
* Despite having Medicare or other insurance coverage, many Americans still purchase safe and affordable prescription drugs from Canada.More than half of respondents (53 percent) report having Medicare, while 18 percent report paying out-of-pocket for their medications. Seventeen percent report that their employer provides insurance coverage, while 9 percent are self-insured.
* The majority of respondents (65 percent) report ordering their prescription medications from an online pharmacy for less than three years. Nearly one-quarter (23 percent) have been using online pharmacies for between four and seven years, and 11 percent of respondents have been ordering for more than eight years.
* Ninety-eight percent ofsurvey respondents would recommend ordering prescription medications from an online pharmacy in Canada to their family and friends because they believe it is a safe option.
* Twenty-six percent of respondents learned about online pharmacies from a doctor or pharmacist. Thirty-three percent of people surveyed heard about ordering drugs from Canada through a website. More than 25 percent learned about online pharmacies from friend or family members and 16 percent heard about them from the media.

“The high price of brand-name drugs in the U.S. has created a serious health crisis and is a significant burden for the elderly and others on fixed incomes,” said Cooley. “Millions of people, often the elderly with chronic health conditions, are either skipping doses, splitting pills, or forgoing medications completely, which can lead to serious health consequences.”

Importing prescription medications from safe, verified pharmacies in Canada provides a lifeline to those in need of affordable life-saving and health maintenance medications.

**About the Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation**<https://personalimportation.org>

The Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation (CPPI) is a national nonprofit patient advocacy organization that fights for Americans’ access to safe, affordable prescription medications from Canada for personal use. Tens of millions of Americans – especially the elderly and others on fixed incomes – struggle to pay the extremely high price of prescription medications in the U.S. We are here to be their voice.

Millions of Americans use licensed Canadian pharmacies annually, to purchase their daily prescription medications at an affordable price. We believe that all Americans have a right to affordable medications. It is time to change the current U.S. policy on this issue to provide immediate access to life-saving medications, taken daily for chronic health conditions, at affordable prices.

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