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## Adverse Drug Reaction [ADR]: Definition

ADR - noxious and unintended effect to health products that occurs at doses normally used for diagnosis, treatment or prevention of a disease or the modification of an organic function



### What Health Products?

- Prescription
- Over the counter
- Natural Health
- Vaccines

### Criteria for *Serious* ADR

- Requires/prolongs hospitalization
- Congenital malformation, disability or incapacity
- Life-threatening or fatal

## BC Telehealth Pharmacists Surveyed on ADR reporting

### 2018 Anonymous online survey asked :

1. How many years of practice as a pharmacist?
2. Do you regularly submit ADR reports during your shift?
3. What are reasons you do *not* submit ADRs regularly?

### Survey results

- 12 of 17 eligible responded
- 7 of 12 respondents had  $\geq 10$  years of practice
- 9 of 12 'regularly submitted ADRs during shift'

### For those *not* submitting regularly reasons selected:

- 1 selected 'don't think it's important'
- 2 selected 'I forget' and 'website takes too long'

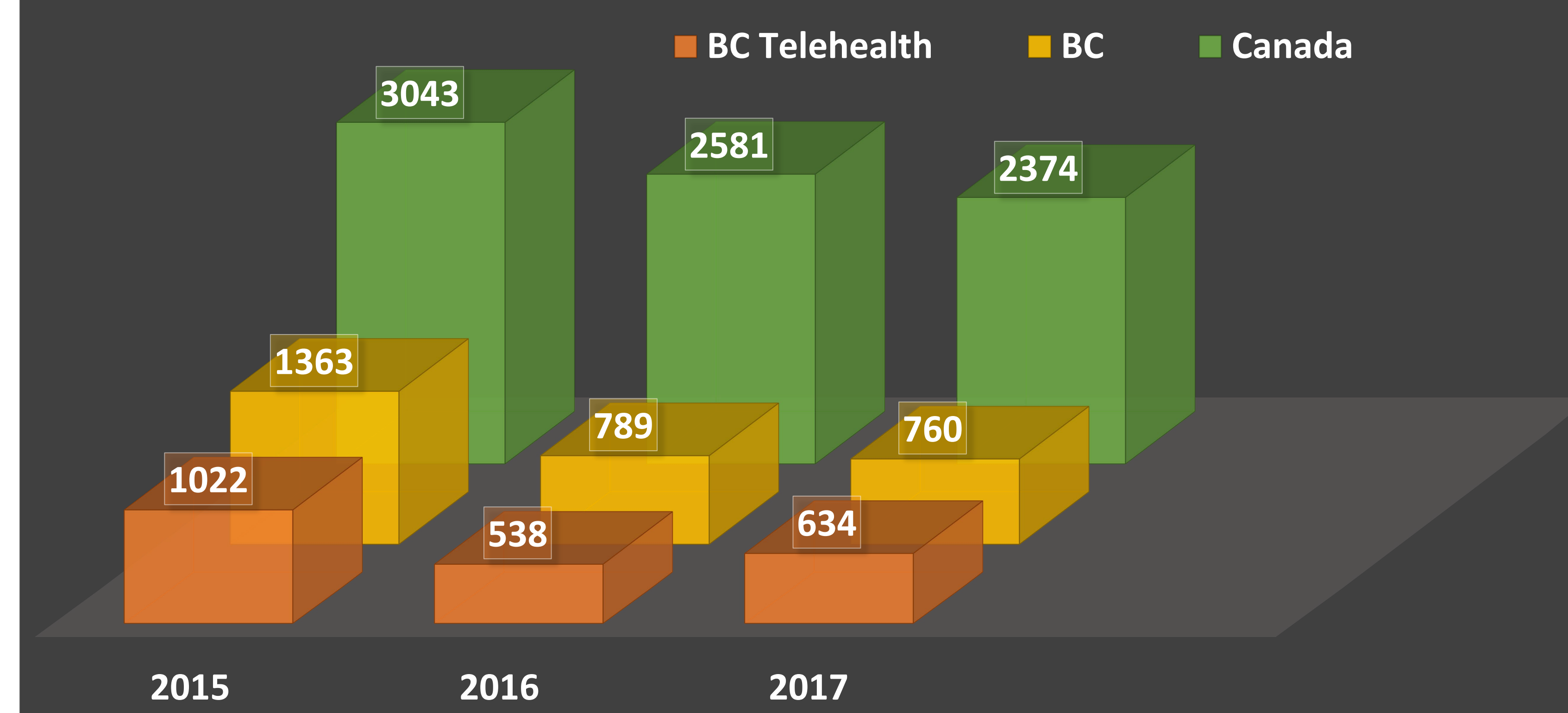
## British Columbia[BC] Telehealth Pharmacists

Health advice via telephone 5pm-9am every day of the year

Trained by Health Canada in 2013 to report *all* ADRs

Since 2015 ADRs submitted electronically to Health Canada online

### NUMBER OF ADRs SUBMITTED ANNUALLY BY PHARMACISTS TO HEALTH CANADA



Between 2015-2017 BC Telehealth Pharmacists submitted 68-83% of all ADRs from BC pharmacists and 20-33% of all ADR reports from pharmacists in Canada!

## Why should all BC pharmacists submit ADRs?

### Professional responsibility in BC

Section 12(7) of the [Health Professions Act Bylaws, Schedule F, Part 1](#) states that "If an adverse drug reaction as defined by Health Canada is identified, the full pharmacist must notify the patient's practitioner, make an appropriate entry on the PharmaNet record and report the reaction to the appropriate department of Health Canada".

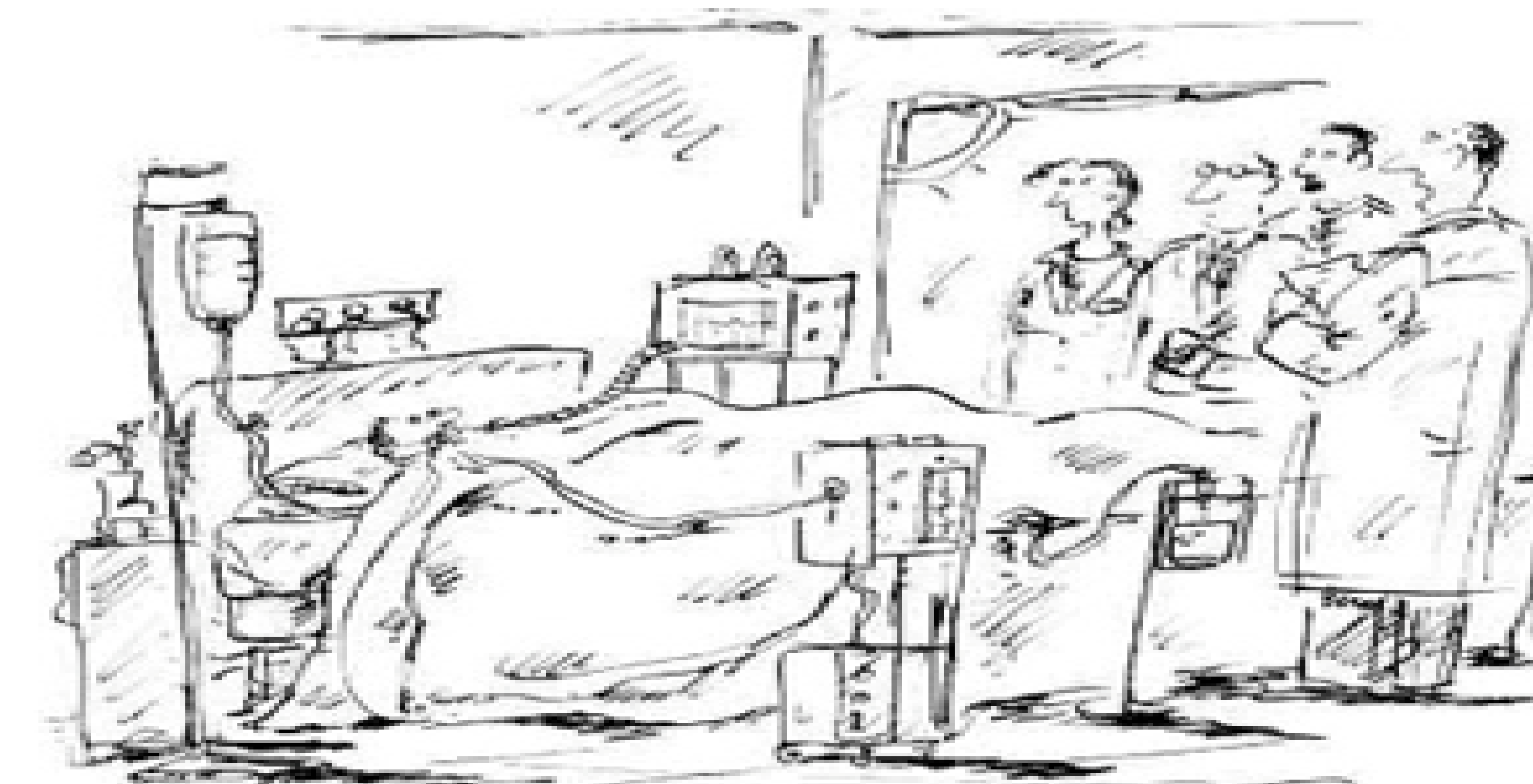
## Mandatory ADR Reporting by Hospitals

June 2018  
Draft Regulations published

- November 6, 2014 *Protecting Canadians from Unsafe Drugs Act* [Vanessa's Law] received royal assent.
  - Vanessa's Law provides Health Canada with the legislative tools necessary to regulate the authorization for sale and safety of therapeutic products based on a life-cycle approach
- [Accessed Nov 6/2018 at <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p1/2018/2018-06-16/html/reg5-eng.html>]

Fall/Winter 2018  
Analysis stakeholder comments

June 2019  
Final Regulations published with 6 month coming into force period  
Serious ADR reporting becomes **mandatory** for hospitals



"Don't worry, Mr. Deany, we medicated you into this and we're going to medicate you out of it."

## Implications for Practice

- Telehealth pharmacists are uniquely positioned to recognize and reports ADRs
- Other pharmacists can leverage human resources [ie. student pharmacists, pharmacy technicians] and technology [ie. online reporting portal] to increase reporting
- Better ADR data supports Health Canada in product regulation, recalls, advisories and safer medication use for all Canadians