

Canadian Drug Insurance Pooling Corporation

Société canadienne de mutualisation en assurance médicaments

NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release

GROWING NUMBER OF CANADIANS CONTINUE TO BENEFIT FROM PRIVATE INSURANCE DRUG POOLING SYSTEM

(Toronto – December 19, 2017) - The Canadian Drug Insurance Pooling Corporation (CDIPC) advised today that, in 2016, more than 20,500 Canadians benefited from the private insurance cost-sharing framework. Further, CDIPC's cost-sharing approach benefited over 7,000 mostly small and mid-size employers by helping maintain the affordability of drug benefit plans provided to their employees and their families.

"Canadians are increasingly benefiting from the medical advances offered through the introduction of new drugs which can sometimes be very expensive," notes CDIPC's Executive Director Dan Berty. "The number of these new high-cost drug treatments are continuing to expand at a rapid pace. Without CDIPC's cost-sharing approach, there is no question that a significant number of employers would have had to make changes to their drug insurance plans, potentially leaving employees and their families without access to lifesaving treatments," added Berty.

Through the CDIPC, Canada's life and health insurers voluntarily share the costs of pooling highly expensive and recurring drug treatments in order to shelter fully-insured private drug plans from the full financial impact of high-cost drugs. This proactive approach is helping ensure the sustainability of supplemental benefit plans for Canadians.

Additional information on 2016 CDIPC drug pooling results has been posted to CDIPCs website in the downloadable document called <u>2016 CDIPC Pooling Results at a Glance</u>.

About CDIPC

The Canadian Drug Insurance Pooling Corporation is a not-for-profit corporation created by the supplemental health insurers in Canada to help facilitate affordable drug coverage for all fully-insured supplementary drug plans while maintaining a competitive health insurance market.

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