



# The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association

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TO: **ALERT TO ALL MANITOBA PHARMACISTS**

**THIS FACSIMILE/E-MAIL TRANSMISSION IS CONFIDENTIAL AND IS INTENDED TO BE RECEIVED BY THE ADDRESSEE ONLY. IF THE READER IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT THEREOF, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION OR COPYING OF THIS FACSIMILE / E-MAIL IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association has received a report of an armed robbery of a pharmacy in the West End of Winnipeg at approximately 10:30 a.m. this morning. This new report comes following the arrest of a group of individuals responsible for previous armed robberies of pharmacies in the city.

In this recent incident, a male armed with a knife threatened pharmacy staff and demanded OxyContin®. After the pharmacist quickly handed over all of the pharmacy's supply of OxyContin®, the armed robber left the pharmacy without further incident.

The safety of staff and others in the pharmacy is always the primary objective. In this case, the staff acted quickly in response to the robber's demands. Police are currently investigating the robbery with the assistance of the pharmacy's surveillance tapes.

It is important that pharmacy staff remain aware and alert to safety procedures in response to an armed robbery. Placing signs in the pharmacy window advertising the use of video surveillance equipment in the pharmacy and limited supplies of OxyContin® may help to prevent an armed robbery.

For additional information on robbery prevention and response to an armed robbery, please refer to the MPhA home page of the NAPRA website ([www.napra.ca](http://www.napra.ca)).

Thank you for communicating this information to all pharmacy staff.

Susan Lessard-Friesen, Deputy Registrar  
The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association

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All loss or theft of drugs must be documented and reported to the:

- (1) Pharmacy's local police service  
(in Winnipeg this would be the Winnipeg Police Service by phone at 204-986-6222);
- (2) Health Canada by fax at 613-957-0110, and

- (3) Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association by fax at 204-237-3468. Reporting forms are available through the Manitoba portion of the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities website ([www.napra.ca](http://www.napra.ca)), click on "Forms".