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## News Release

### CFPC Encourages Progress towards Universal Pharmaceutical Coverage

(October 1, 2015, Mississauga, ON) The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) offers its support to the *Campaign for National Drug Coverage* that calls for universal prescription drug coverage to everyone in Canada.

Canada is the only country in the world that boasts a universal health care system but does not include the crucial pharmaceutical component. One in ten Canadians cannot afford the price of prescription drugs. The CFPC is proud to join other health care organizations such as Canadian Medical Association, Canadian Nurses Association and Canadian Doctors for Medicare in calling for this important program.

“As family physicians, our members have first-hand experience of the obstacle that pharmaceutical prices may impose to our patients,” says the CFPC’s Executive Director and CEO, Francine Lemire, MD CM, CCFP, FCFP, CAE. “Moving towards universal coverage will improve health equity in Canada and offers potential long-term savings from bulk purchasing.”

The CFPC supported a national pharmaceutical strategy as part of its 2013 [Report Card on Role of Federal Government in Health Care](#). This indicator continues to be one of the criteria that the CFPC uses on its [website analyzing federal parties’ health platforms \(www.election2015.cfpc.ca/\)](#). The College looks forward to making progress on this important goal with the newly-elected federal government in October.

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) represents more than 34,000 members across the country. It is the professional organization responsible for establishing standards for the training, certification and lifelong education of family physicians. The College provides quality services and programs, supports family medicine teaching and research, and advocates on behalf of family physicians and the specialty of family medicine. The CFPC accredits postgraduate family medicine training in Canada’s 17 medical schools.

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**Contact** Susan Monic  
Manager, Communications Services  
College of Family Physicians of Canada  
905-629-0900 ext 432  
[smonic@cfpc.ca](mailto:smonic@cfpc.ca)  
[www.cfpc.ca](http://www.cfpc.ca)  
@CanFamPhys