

# Plain Language Labelling Industry Perspective

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CAPRA Symposium

November 2016



# Presentation Outline

- The PLL Journey for Industry
- Impact on Industry
- Next steps



# The PLL Journey for Industry

PLL sub-team  
formed among Reg  
Affairs Committee



Health Canada  
consultations  
Pre-CG1

Health Canada  
consultations  
LASA  
Guidance

Health Canada  
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Health Canada  
consultations CG2 +  
draft Q&A

PLL  
regulations in  
effect

Ongoing feedback  
on Q&A

April 2012

Dec 2012

Feb 2013

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Through bilateral interactions continue to provide feedback





Health  
Canada

Santé  
Canada

*Your health and  
safety... our priority.*

*Votre santé et votre  
sécurité... notre priorité.*

## PLAIN LANGUAGE LABELLING INITIATIVE

*Easy to Read... Easy to Understand... Easy to Access*

Joanne Garrah  
Office of Legislative and Regulatory  
Modernization, PPIAD, HPFB

December 2012



Canada

# Plain Language Labelling Initiative

## Objectives:



- **reduce preventable** medication errors
- **improve safe and effective** use of drugs
- support Canadians in making **informed choices** about drugs

## To be achieved through:

- **plain language** improvements to labels and packages
- increasing **accessibility and tailoring** of labels for health professionals and consumers
- increasing **consumer awareness** - how labels are read

*System-wide collaboration will be key to the success of this initiative, and Health Canada will also look to international counterparts to draw upon best practices and experiences, and align where possible.*



# Google Search Term: Drugs Health Canada



## Health Canada

www.hc-sc.gc.ca

Français	Home	Contact Us	Help	Search	Canada.ca
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Home > Drugs & Health Products > Drug Products

**Drug Product Database (DPD)**

Label Safety Assessment Update

Explore...

Main Menu

Healthy Canadians

Media Room

Site Map

**Transparency**

Regulatory Transparency and Openness

Completed Access to Information Requests

Proactive Disclosure

### Drugs and Health Products

Print | Text Size: S M L XL Help | Share

## Drug Product Database

### What is the Drug Product Database (DPD)?

The DPD contains product specific information on drugs approved for use in Canada. The database is managed by Health Canada and includes human pharmaceutical and biological drugs, veterinary drugs, radiopharmaceutical drugs and disinfectant products. It contains approximately 47,000 products that are currently approved, marketed or cancelled.

Human, veterinary, disinfectants and Schedule C drugs (e.g. radiopharmaceutical products) approved products will be available in the DPD online at the time of authorization, with the exception of three monographed product groups under Division 1, Part C of the *Food and Drug Regulations*: sunscreen (sunscreens, lipstick making a SPF claim, cosmetic-like products with sunscreen claims, etc.), anti-dandruff shampoo, and hard surface disinfectants. For these products, applications filed after June 15, 2015, there may be a six month delay after approval for the inclusion in the DPD online.


Health Canada is the federal regulator of therapeutic products and **does not provide medical advice on the use of the products identified in this database.** For information related to treatment options, choices of medications and their uses, illnesses, side effects or drug interactions, please contact your health care professional. For information on where these products are sold, please contact the individual company directly.

**Information Regarding the DPD Online Query**

**Additional information regarding the DPD online query:**

- the data found in the DPD online query is **updated nightly**;
- use the [Search Tips](#) to help navigate the database;
- use the [Terminoloov](#) to get an understanding of the words used in the DPD online

Access the Drug Product Database



## Health Canada

www.hc-sc.gc.ca

Français	Home	Contact Us	Help	Search	Canada.ca
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Home

**Drugs & Health Products**

Advisories, Warnings & Recalls

Biologics, Radiopharmaceuticals & Genetic Therapies

Compliance & Enforcement

Device Drug Interface

Drug Products

Funding & Fees

International Activities

MedEffect Canada (adverse reactions)

Medical Devices

Medical Use of Marijuana

Natural Health Products

Progressive Licensing

Public Involvement & Consultations

Regulatory Requirements for Advertising

Special Access to Drugs & Health Products

Veterinary Drugs

Legislation & Guidelines

Reports & Publications

Explore...

Main Menu

Healthy Canadians

Media Room


Site Map

**Transparency**

Regulatory Transparency and

### Drugs and Health Products

Print | Text Size: S M L XL Help



#### More Highlights

Health Canada plays an active role in ensuring that you have access to safe and effective drugs and health products. The Department strives to maintain a balance between the potential health benefits and risks posed by all drugs and health products. Our highest priority in determining the balance is public safety.

Working together with other levels of government, health care professionals, patient and consumer interest groups, research communities and manufacturers, our department endeavours to minimize the health risk factors to you and maximize the safety provided by the regulatory system for these products.

We also strive to provide you with the information you need to make healthy choices and informed decisions about your health.

Health Canada is not a manufacturer or distributor of drugs and health products. We are the federal regulator. For additional drug information related to treatment options or where drugs or health products are sold, please contact your health professional or the individual company directly.

#### What is Available?

Health Canada is committed to providing timely access to sound, evidence-based information. We want to ensure that Canadians remain up-to-date on current developments and issues pertaining to drugs and health products in Canada.

**Highlights**

Health Product InfoWatch, October 2016

Health Product InfoWatch, September 2016

Health Product InfoWatch, August 2016

**Features**

[Drug and Health Product Register](#)

[Prevent drug abuse](#)

[Get recalls and safety alerts](#)

[Prescription Drug List](#)

[REGULATORY MODERNIZATION Health Products & Food](#)

[Assisted Human Reproduction](#)

[Advisories, Warnings & Recalls](#)

[Drug Product Database](#)

[Special Access](#)

# Google Search Term: Drugs FDA

The screenshot shows the Drugs@FDA website. At the top, it features the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services logo and the FDA U.S. Food & Drug Administration logo. A search bar with a red 'SEARCH' button is located in the top right. Below the logo is a navigation menu with tabs for Home, Food, Drugs, Medical Devices, Radiation-Emitting Products, Vaccines, Blood & Biologics, Animal & Veterinary, Cosmetics, and Tobacco Products. A breadcrumb trail shows 'FDA Home > Drug Databases > Drugs@FDA'. The main heading is 'Drugs@FDA FDA Approved Drug Products'. A notice in red text states: 'Drugs@FDA has a new look and a new web address! The new address is <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf>. This older version will be available until November 18, 2016.' Below this is a search section with the text 'Search by Drug Name, Active Ingredient, or Application Number' and a search box with 'Submit' and 'Clear' buttons. A 'Browse by Drug Name' section includes an alphabetical index from A to Z and 0-9. At the bottom left, there is a link for 'Drug Approval Reports by Month'.



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## Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement (RIAS)

- The submission of mock-ups would not theoretically require additional work on the part of the Sponsor
  - Timing change
  - Reduce procedural steps during review
- LASA – policy in effect since 2006. Industry anticipating updates.
  - Void of stating any additional/incremental cost for Sponsors
- Reduction in
  - Preventable medication errors caused by drug's name, label, package
  - Number of ER visits, hospitalizations, lengths of stays
  - Reduce morbidity and mortality linked to ADR
  - Reduce dispense error rate in community pharmacies
  - Reduce number of tort cases related to medication errors

*“The issue of preventable medication errors is recognized as being a complex and system-wide concern...”*



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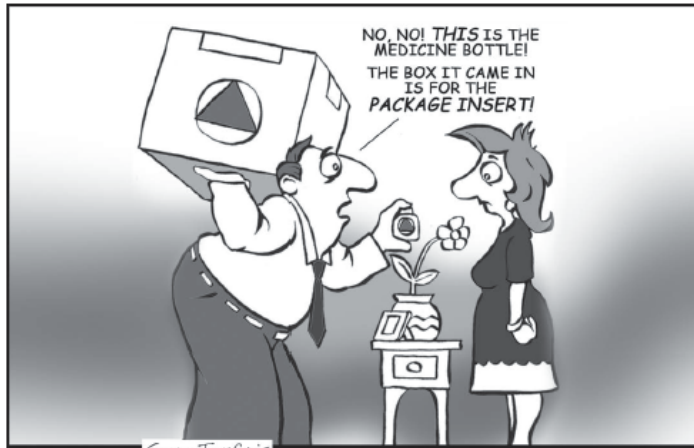
## Industry's Key Comments

- Ensure Canadians receive approved Canadian labelling
- Approved labelling available in Central repository, accessible from trusted source
- Shift from paper formats to electronic media
- Harmonize requirements
- Eliminate/minimize non-value, resource intense implementation elements



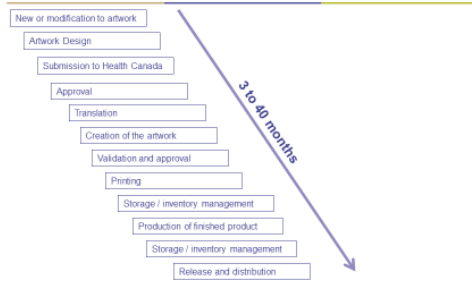
Milestone	Q&A pre-v1	Q&A v1	Q&A v3	Q&A v4
Filing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brand Name Assessment</li> <li>Contact information on inner and outer label</li> <li>Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups for each product size and configuration</li> <li>Bilingual PM</li> <li>Bilingual PI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brand Name Assessment</li> <li>Contact information on inner and outer label</li> <li>Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups for representative size and configuration</li> <li>Unilingual (NDS only) or Bilingual PM</li> <li>Unilingual (NDS only) or Bilingual PI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brand Name Assessment</li> <li>Contact information on inner and outer label</li> <li>Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups for representative size and configuration (NDS, SNDS, ANDS, SANDS, DINA, DINB)</li> <li>Inner and outer label, PM, PI annotated written text (NC and PDC)</li> <li>Unilingual (NDS only) or Bilingual PM</li> <li>Unilingual (NDS only) or Bilingual PI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brand Name Assessment</li> <li>Contact information on inner and outer label</li> <li>Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups for representative size and configuration (NDS, SNDS, ANDS, SANDS, DINA, DINB)</li> <li>Inner and outer label, PM annotated written text (NC and PDC)</li> <li>No PI for NC and PDC</li> <li>Unilingual (NDS only) or Bilingual PM</li> <li>Unilingual (NDS only) or Bilingual PI</li> </ul>
Within 15 days of review acceptance	None – all at filing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> language PM (NDS only)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> language PI (NDS only)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> language PM (NDS only)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> language PI (NDS only)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> language inner/outer labels (NC, PDC)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> language PM (NDS, NC, PDC)</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> language PI (NDS only)</li> </ul>
Prior to approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups</li> <li>Bilingual PI</li> <li>English PM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups</li> <li>Final English PI mock-up</li> <li>English PM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups</li> <li>Final English PI mock-up</li> <li>Final English PM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Bilingual Inner and Outer label mock-ups</li> <li>Final English PI mock-up</li> <li>Final English PM</li> </ul>
After approval	Within 10 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French PM</li> </ul>	Within 10 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French PM</li> <li>French PI</li> </ul>	Within 10 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French PM</li> <li>French PI</li> </ul>	Within 20 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French PM</li> <li>French PI</li> </ul>



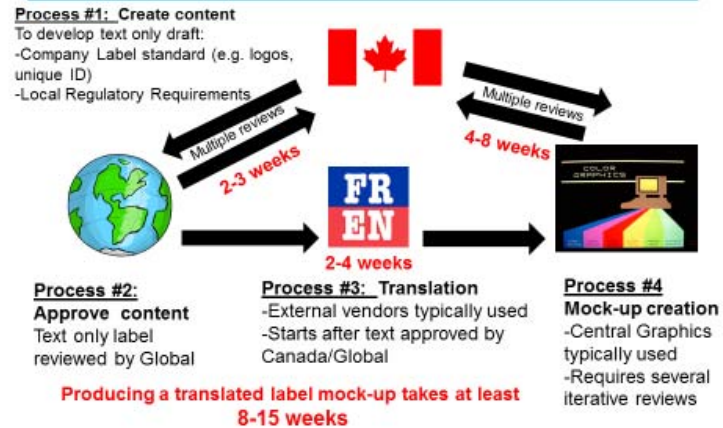


20 NOC: NEWS OF COURSE • Spring 2014

### Overall process from the industry to the wholesalers



### Standard process for Inner/Outer Label Mock-up



### Package Label Elements – Reviewer comments

"...remove the trademark information... not required by the regulations, nor is it considered essential information for the consumer..."

"...to make space, please remove the bar code / QR code..."

"...remove the product logo..."

"...to minimize visible distraction, remove/change these colours..."

"Reduce the space allocated to the expiry"

"...adopt one of the acceptable expiry date formats as noted in GLLG..."

"...the colour scheme on the label does not match the color of the tablets..."

"...to meet a font size, remove directions such as "do not split the tablet..."

Sponsors: Difficult to implement these types of requests



**DOCUMENT REVISION HISTORY**

<b>File name</b>	Guidance Document Questions and Answers: Plain Language Labelling Regulations	<b>Replaces</b>	not applicable
<b>Date Adopted</b>	2015/04/30	<b>Date Adopted</b>	not applicable
<b>Effective Date</b>	2015/06/13	<b>Effective Date</b>	not applicable

<b>Version</b>	<b>Location of Change</b>	<b>Change Made</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
1	not applicable	Initial Issuance of Guidance	2015/06/13
2	Section 2: Mock-up Requirement Clarification around DIN-As and DIN-Bs	Removal of Notifiable Change (NC) and post-authorization Division 1 Change (PDC) submissions from the mock-up requirement	2016/02/02
3	Section 2: Mock-up Requirement	Clarification around the submission of annotated text for Notifiable Changes.	2016/04/12
4	Section 2: Mock-up Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reorganization of section on mock-ups</li> <li>• Inclusion of text on recommended font size for labels and package inserts</li> <li>• Addition of requirement to declare font size and style for labels and to provide a rationale, if expected font size is not met</li> <li>• Removal of requirement to submit package inserts for Notifiable Change/Post-authorization Division 1 Change submissions</li> </ul>	2016/09/08
5	Appendices	Addition of guidelines on	2016/09/08



## Revisions to Q&A: PLL Regulations

- Relaxed requirements for NC and PDC
  - No PI at time of filing
  - Labels (annotated text or mock-up) at filing, only if significant changes
- Timing of submission for 2<sup>nd</sup> language PM and PI for NDS
  - Accepted during screening
  - Final accepted post-approval
- Post-approval submission of 2<sup>nd</sup> language PM and PI
  - Accepted 20 days post-approval
- Creation of abbreviated Package Insert



## Impact on Industry

- Delays to submissions in Canada
  - Notifiable Changes – *alleviated by Q&A Sept 2016 update*
  - SNDS response to Advisement Letter
- Increased artwork demand
- Increased translation demand
- Increase to new product introductions costs in Canada
- Global-Canada process and governance changes for labelling and package change control





## Industry's Ongoing Challenges

Ongoing Challenge	Suggestions
Expiry date format	Flexibility for currently approved products and site formats
Font size	Focus on overall legibility
Package Insert Mock-ups	Shift to electronic media and away from paper based format
When to submit 2 <sup>nd</sup> language labels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remove filing requirement<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide 20 days post-approval</li></ul></li><li>• Availability evaluated during Inspections</li></ul>



## Next steps

- Continue to provide feedback on PLL implementation
- Explore options for electronic consumer information
- Evaluate effectiveness of PLL after years of implementation
  - Assess against RIAS:  
Has medication errors linked to brand name, label, package decreased?



# Labelling Information – many types

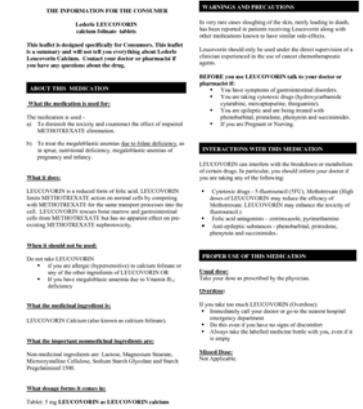
Rx bottle



Package insert



Product Monograph Part III – Consumer Information



3rd Party Drug info sheet



# Questions



## Confidentiality Notice

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