



National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities[®]
Association nationale des organismes de réglementation de la pharmacie

About NAPRA

National Association of
Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities



Role of NAPRA vs PRAs

- **NAPRA:** Facilitates **collaboration** and **national approaches** amongst its members, the pharmacy regulatory authorities (PRAs).
- **NAPRA members:** 13 provincial/territorial PRAs + Canadian Forces Health Services.
- NAPRA is **not a regulatory authority** itself and does **not** have any authority over the PRAs, pharmacies, or pharmacy professionals.
- **PRAs:** Regulate pharmacy practice in their respective jurisdictions in the public interest.
- **NAPRA helps the PRAs collaborate** to develop similar approaches to common problems – including by developing programs, documents and tools for the PRAs to use as they wish.

IMPORTANT

NAPRA work is a model for the PRAs to use. The PRAs will implement differently to meet their needs. So, it's the PRAs that are responsible for enforcement, not NAPRA.



NAPRA Strategic Plan & Values



Mission

National leadership in the pursuit of pharmacy regulatory excellence.



Vision

Pharmacy regulatory excellence.



Values

Leadership, Excellence, Integrity,
Respect, Transparency,
Collaboration.

NAPRA's Purpose and Value

NAPRA's Purpose



NAPRA serves as an alliance that brings together Canada's pharmacy regulators with the shared goal of protecting public health through effective regulation.

- An **alliance** of **Canada's pharmacy regulators** aimed at **effective, socially relevant** pharmacy **regulation** to **protect public health** and **well-being**.
- **Members benefit** from **programs and services** that **support** their **jurisdictional efforts**.
- **Building capacity** through constructive **dialogue, research,** and **innovation** with **national** and **international peers** and **policymakers**.

NAPRA's Purpose and Value

NAPRA's Purpose



- A **focal point** for **Canada's pharmacy regulation** at the national level.

NAPRA's Value



- **Develops** and **supports resources** crucial for **successful** pharmacy **regulation**.
- **Informs policy** and **strategy development**.
- Provides **leadership** on **future pharmacy** and **regulatory directions**.

By developing resources, informing policies, and coordinating national programs, NAPRA adds significant value to its members.

NAPRA Programs and Services

National Drug Schedules (NDS)



Pharmacists' Gateway Canada



Collaboration with federal and international organizations



Development of key NAPRA documents (model standards, competencies)

National Drug Schedules (NDS)

Developed to help harmonize non-prescription drug schedules across provinces and territories.



Includes Schedule I, II, III, and Unscheduled drugs.



NDS is implemented and enforced by the provinces/territories.



LOGIN

FRANÇAIS

National Drug Schedules Program ▾ Resources ▾ International News

National Drug Schedules

Search the National Drug Schedules



DOWNLOAD THE NDS

Search By:

Drug Name or Keyword

Schedule

Footnote

Enter keywords

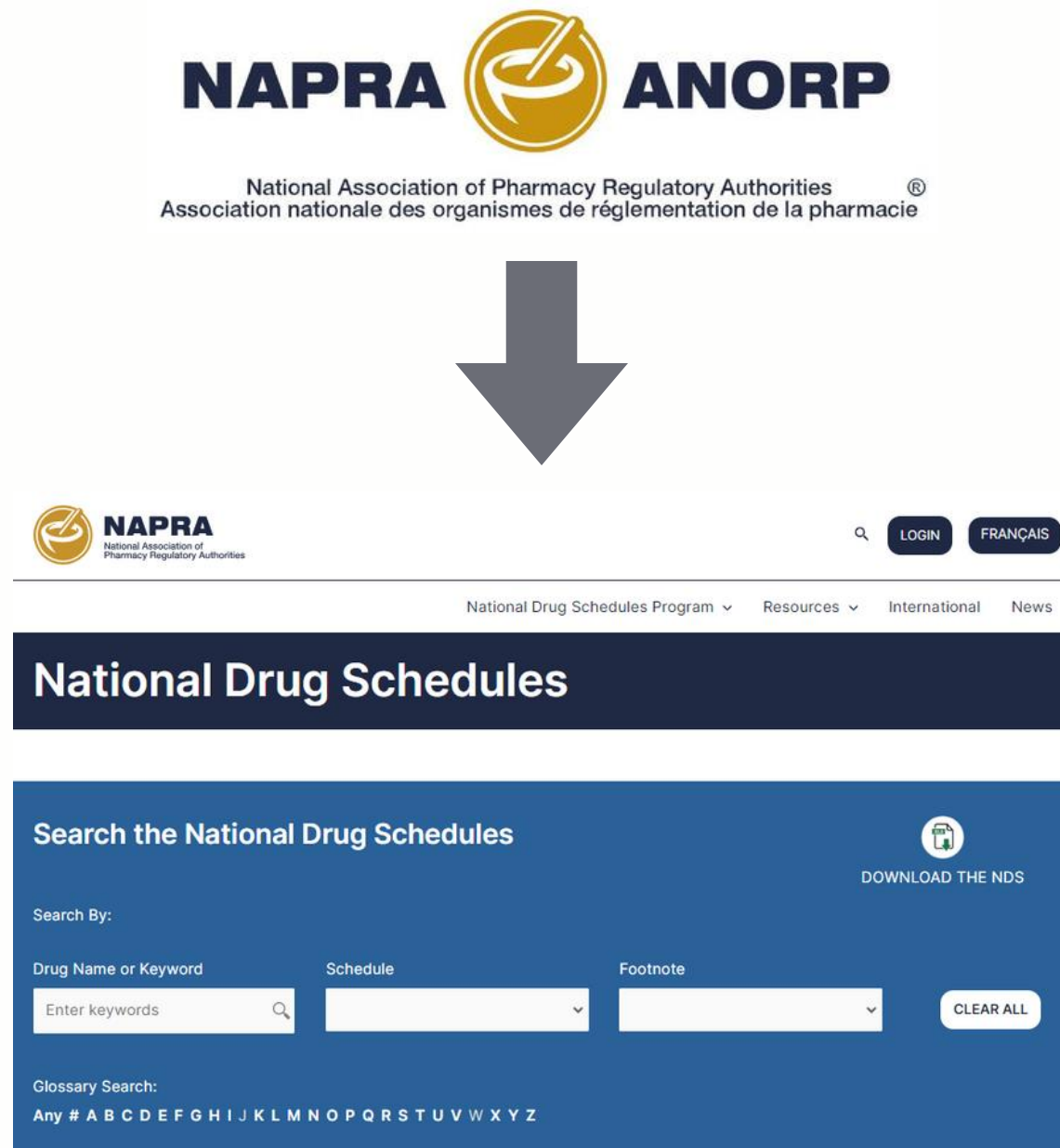
CLEAR ALL

Glossary Search:

Any # A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

<https://www.napra.ca/national-drug-schedules-program/>

NAPRA vs Health Canada Roles




- **Health Canada authorizes drugs** for sale in Canada **and** determines **whether a drug requires a prescription.**
- **Health Canada** lists **prescription drugs** in the Prescription Drug List (**PDL**) or under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (**CDSA**) – these drugs require a prescription across Canada.
- **NAPRA’s National Drugs Schedules** determine the **conditions of sale** for drugs that Health Canada classified as **non-prescription.**

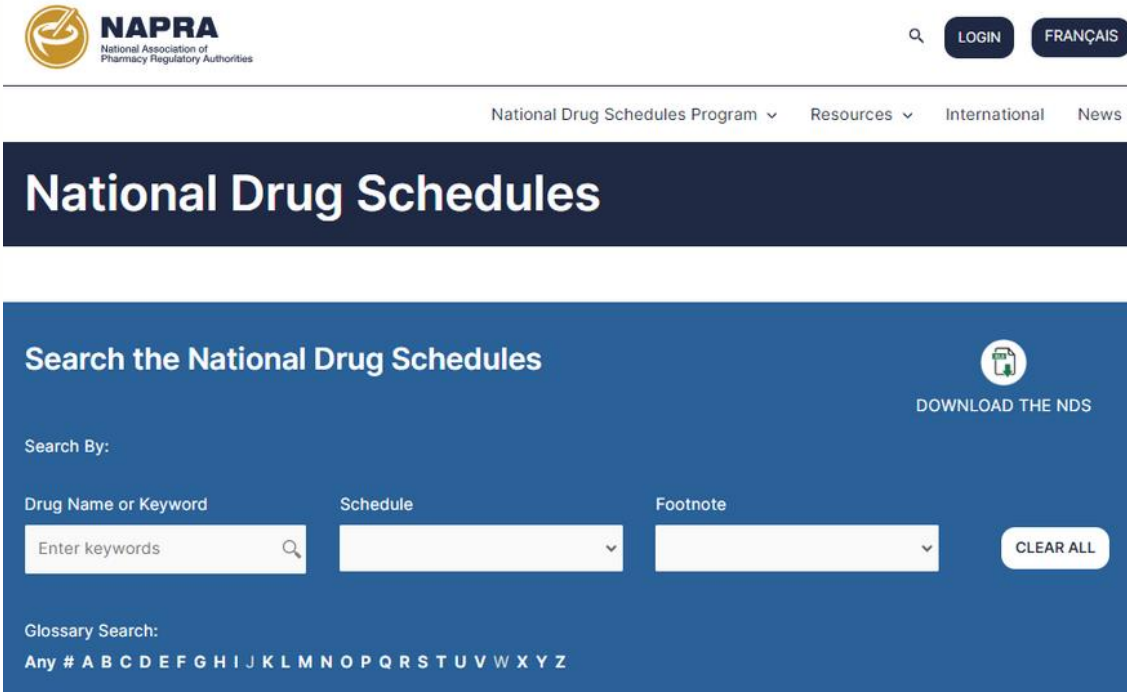
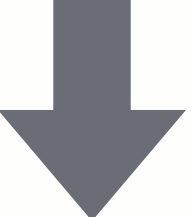
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NAPRA's Role in Drug Scheduling

- NAPRA's NDS helps to harmonize conditions of sale for **non-prescription drugs** across jurisdictions.
- The NDS program is **implemented** through **provincial/territorial laws and regulations**.
- There can be **slight differences** in how it is implemented from one province or territory to another – including **possible exceptions**.
- Because it is implemented by the laws and regulations of the province or territory, it's the **province or territory that is responsible for enforcement**.



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The screenshot shows the NAPRA website's National Drug Schedules Program interface. At the top left is the NAPRA logo. To the right are search and language options (LOGIN, FRANÇAIS). Below the header is a navigation menu with links for National Drug Schedules Program, Resources, International, and News. A dark blue banner reads "National Drug Schedules". Below this is a search section titled "Search the National Drug Schedules" with a "DOWNLOAD THE NDS" button. The search area includes a "Search By:" section with three input fields: "Drug Name or Keyword" (with a search icon), "Schedule" (a dropdown menu), and "Footnote" (a dropdown menu). A "CLEAR ALL" button is located to the right of these fields. At the bottom of the search section is a "Glossary Search:" section with a link "Any # A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z".

<https://www.napra.ca/national-drug-schedules-program/>

National Drug Schedules (NDS)

SCHEDULE I DRUGS

Prescription required.



SCHEDULE II DRUGS

Pharmacist intervention (consultation) required.



SCHEDULE III DRUGS

Self-selection / pharmacy-only
(Consultation must be available but is not required.)



UNSCHEDULED

Can be sold from any retail outlet.



LOGIN

FRANÇAIS

National Drug Schedules Program ▾ Resources ▾ International News

National Drug Schedules

Search the National Drug Schedules



DOWNLOAD THE NDS

Search By:

Drug Name or Keyword

Schedule

Footnote

Enter keywords

CLEAR ALL


Glossary Search:

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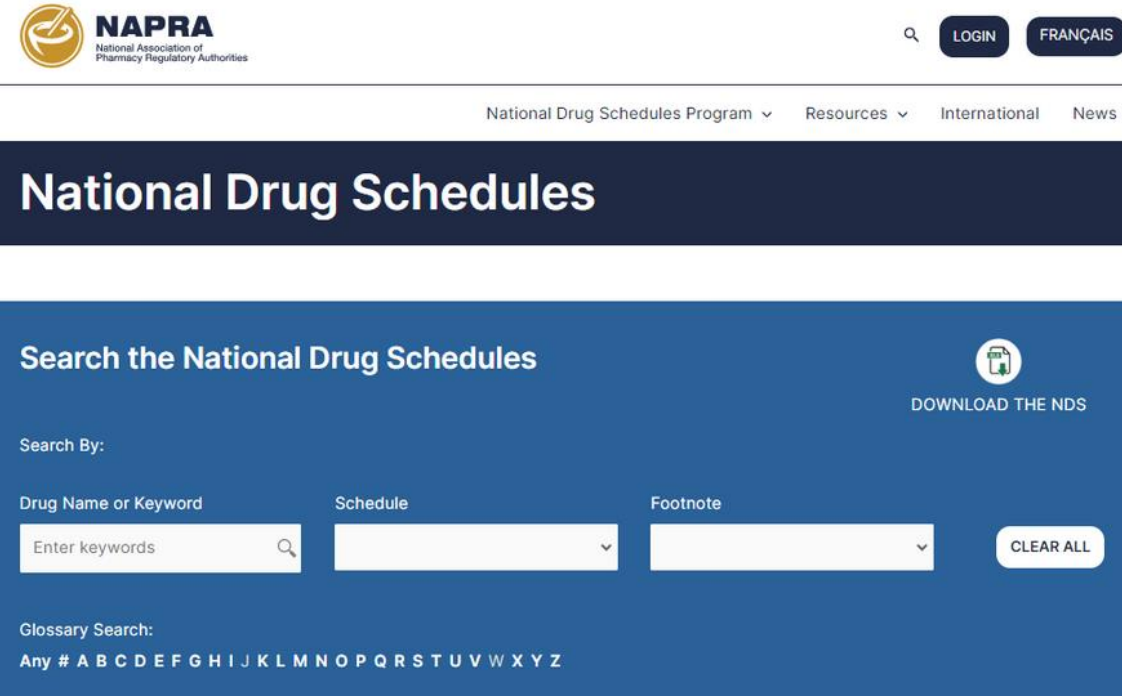
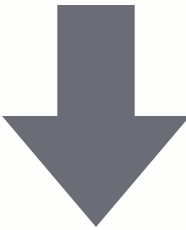
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NDS Process

- A specific process is followed for each drug scheduling review – outlined in NAPRA [Bylaw No. 2](#) & [Rules of Procedure](#).
- **National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC)**
 - 4 meetings pre-scheduled throughout the year; only occur if submission received.
 - Specific pre- and post-meeting procedures must be followed.
 - NDSAC makes a determination on the application of the [scheduling factors](#).
 - NDSAC makes interim scheduling recommendations.
 - 30-day consultation period.
 - Board makes final scheduling recommendations.
 - National Drug Schedules are amended – implementation by the provinces/territories.



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<https://www.napra.ca/national-drug-schedules-program/>

Pharmacists' Gateway Canada

Platform to support licensure for
international pharmacy graduates
(Website, Client Services, Document Repository).



Provides a centralized resource for information
on application processes & guides candidates
through licensure process.



Facilitates the integration of international
pharmacists into Canadian healthcare
system.



PHARMACISTS'
GATEWAY
CANADA
for international pharmacists



PORTAIL POUR
PHARMACIENS
CANADA
pour pharmaciens formés à l'étranger

**A crucial tool for international
pharmacy graduates aiming to
practise in Canada.**

<https://www.pharmacistsgatewaycanada.ca/>

Collaboration and Representation

NAPRA provides a valuable forum for exchanging ideas, learning from each other and addressing challenges in pharmacy practice.



NAPRA represents PRAs from all Canadian provinces, territories, and the Canadian Forces Health Services.



NAPRA provides a national forum for discussing and addressing common issues.



NAPRA engages with federal and international organizations on behalf of its members.

NAPRA Services to Members

Develops national model documents (e.g., standards, competencies) for its members to use as they wish.



Administers key programs: NDS and Pharmacists' Gateway Canada.



Facilitates national dialogue on pharmacy practice and pharmacy regulatory issues.



Acts as central point of contact for engagement with national and international organizations.



NAPRA's Impact on Pharmacy Practice

- Promotes harmonized regulatory approaches across Canada.
- Supports the mobility of pharmacy professionals into and between Canadian jurisdictions.
- Enhances the quality of pharmacy care by promoting collaboration towards excellence in pharmacy regulation.





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