



## Risk Mapping Patterns in Community Pharmacy Error Reporting

### Summary

The objective of this scoping review was to understand risk definitions and risk conceptualizations in community pharmacies. Unfortunately, incident-capturing systems are under-utilized leading to potential and actual errors.<sup>3,4</sup> There is a need to improve safety for patients and share prevention and mitigation strategies. By using the WHO definition this review found 25 studies focused on preventing, eleven on mitigation, seven on adverse event negotiation, three articles on multiple strategies, and four could not be classified.<sup>1</sup>

### Implications

This review has found a lack of universal definition and utilization of risk prevention, mitigation, and adverse event negotiation strategies. Future research is needed to establish a universal definition of risk in community pharmacy and identify strategies aimed at preventing and mitigating risk.

**Reference:** Sears, K., Belbin, S., Barker, J.R., Ross-White, A., Bishop, A., Murphy, M., & Godfrey, C. (2023). Risk Mapping Patterns in Community Pharmacy Error Reporting: Scoping Review. SPOR Evidence Alliance.

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### What is the current situation?

- Unfortunately, incident-capturing systems can be under-utilized due to potential disciplinary repercussions, nonexistent reporting systems, or unclear post-incident decision-making frameworks.<sup>3</sup>
- Medication errors have been shown to occur four times more often in community settings compared to the other settings.<sup>4</sup>
- There is not a widely accepted or used definition of risk.<sup>1</sup>

### What is the objective?

- The objective of this scoping review was to understand risk definitions and risk conceptualizations in community pharmacies.

### What are the research questions?

- Q1: How is risk considered, conceptualized, and studied in community pharmacy practice?
- Q2: How do Canadian pharmaceutical regulators define and generate regulations related to risk?
- Q3: What are the available resources concerning risk (risk mitigation strategies) in community pharmacy settings?

### How was the review conducted?

- The scoping review was conducted in accordance with the JBI methodology for scoping reviews.<sup>5</sup>
- From the initial search in Ovid MEDLINE, a more comprehensive search was developed for Ovid MEDLINE and translated to Ovid Embase, Ovid EBM Reviews for Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL), Scopus and CINAHL (EbscoHost).
- The final set of included studies comprised 50 studies.

### What did the review find?

- Q1: As no clear definition was extracted from the included studies in this review, the WHO definitions for prevention of risk, mitigation, and adverse event negotiation were used
- Q2: The search strategy used for this review did not result in any articles with a pharmaceutical regulator lens; therefore, no definition or generation of regulations related to risk could be identified.
- Q3: 25 studies focused on preventing, 11 on mitigation, seven on adverse event negotiation, three studies on multiple strategies, and four could not be classified

