

5 ways to SAVE MONEY and STAY SAFE from COUNTERFEIT DRUGS

① Find out about assistance programs.



Many drug companies offer qualifying patients access to low-cost or free medications. Check with your provider about supports available to you. You can also find these patient-assistance programs online at www.needymeds.org and www.pparx.org.

② Discuss the price and alternatives to medication with your doctor or pharmacist.



When you are prescribed medication, ask what the price is. If you will have problems affording it, talk to your doctor or pharmacist about an alternative or generic medication that might cost less.

③ Keep a record of the medication you're taking.



Be an informed patient. Understand the medications you're taking and why. Record the name and lot number of the product you are given, or take a photo with your camera phone. If there is a question later about the medication or a concern that you got the right one, you will have a record.

④ Work with Your Pharmacist: Ask about Price Matching.



It is important to build a relationship with a pharmacist who can help you be sure you are getting the intended benefits of your medicines and avoid any medicine-related issues and interactions. If you have issues affording your medicine, ask them about alternatives. Most pharmacies will also price match on medication if you find them at a lower price at other places.

⑤ Use Safe Online Pharmacies.



If you decide you must buy online, be sure you are using safe online pharmacies that are licensed with the VIPPS logo. You can find a list of licensed online pharmacies at <http://safedr ug/USVIPPS>. Make sure your local pharmacist knows all the medications you're taking to watch for drug interactions.

6 things YOU DON'T KNOW about CANADIAN WEB PHARMACIES

1 They're not Canadian.

They may be a Canadian company, but your payment and the call center usually live outside of Canada.



2 They're not pharmacies.

They don't possess a pharmacy license that allows them to dispense medications to Canadian citizens. Your medicine will probably arrive drop shipped from a third country, such as Pakistan or Turkey.



3 But I can drive over the border and buy medicine from a Canadian pharmacy?!

Yes, you can. But that pharmacy is not allowed to ship across the border to America.



4 But these medicines are made in the same factories as American and Canadian medicine.

No. The Postal Service periodically conducts inspections of shipments from "Canadian pharmacies." They have found **almost all the medicine being shipped were from 27 countries** (not Canada) around the globe and many tested counterfeit or contained insufficient active ingredient to be effective.



5 But don't they source their medicines from "safe" countries like England and Australia?

No, inspectors have found that these medicines were made in countries like Turkey, India, China, and Pakistan.



6 But the Canadian government wouldn't allow this, would they?

The Canadian government doesn't control shipments that go from a third-party country (Turkey) directly to you in America. They have no say in this, but their Food and Drug Administration doesn't allow these drugs to be given to their own people.



For more information about dangerous fake Canadian web pharmacies, please see:
<http://safedr.ug/fakemapleleaf>