



Pillcheck Pharmacogenetics (PGx) Service

Description

The most common challenge with prescription drugs is unwelcome side effects. And sometimes, they are simply not effective for the individual. Pillcheck helps identify the right medication at the right dosage from a broad spectrum of drugs and helps individuals feel better sooner. With every additional medicine a person takes, their risk of side effects and the treatment not working increases. Pillcheck is an effective tool for addressing problems with current medications and can also be obtained proactively before new prescriptions are needed.

- The service includes a DNA test, and a review of prescriptions and clinical interpretation of results by a licensed pharmacist trained in pharmacogenetics.
- The pharmacist produces a Pharmacist Opinion Letter (POL), which provides individuals and their physicians recommendations on dose adjustment or drug switch when warranted. The POL helps enable communication between consumers and their healthcare providers about their predicted drug response, thereby reducing the risk of side effects and improving the efficacy and safety of prescribed medications
- Pillcheck DNA testing analyzes only the specific genes involved in drug metabolism. It does not assess the risk for disease. It helps identify potential risks associated with standard drug dosing in individuals with significantly reduced or enhanced drug metabolism.
- Pillcheck follows clinical recommendations published by Health Canada, FDA, and the Clinical Pharmacogenetics Implementation Consortium.

Pillcheck is an eligible medical expense as defined in the Income Tax Act

Pharmacists are [authorized medical practitioners](#) in all Canadian provinces and territories. Unless required by the plan administrator, medical services by medical practitioners do not require a separate prescription/requisition from a doctor.

Clinical Laboratory

A certified laboratory performs the Pillcheck genotyping test as a Laboratory Developed Test. The Dynacare Next laboratory performs the DNA analysis according to Pillcheck specifications. The laboratory is located in Laval, QC, Canada and has the following accreditations:

- Standards Council of Canada - ISO 15189
- Standards Council of Canada - Orchid Pro-DNA ISO 17025
- COLA-Accreditation-Certificate

Privacy and Security

Customers own their data, and access to it is governed by informed consent. Results are not shared with insurers or employers. Customers may grant their healthcare provider direct access to their results in the Pillcheck Portal upon request. Data stored in two data centers in Ontario, Canada. DNA samples are destroyed once the customer's report is complete. Pillcheck is HIPAA, PIPEDA, GDPR compliant.

Cost

The Pillcheck service is available to order online, direct to consumers at a retail price of \$599 + tax (CAD). Other discounts or channel-specific pricing may apply.