

# Therapeutics Initiative Survey 2011

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The 2011 survey was our fourth, following similar surveys conducted in 1996, 2000 and 2006. Because of new developments within the TI, this survey wasn't identical to the previous three surveys, but it contained some key questions in common with the previous surveys, thus making it possible to assess changes in response rates over time. Each time we randomly selected approximately 10% of the 10,000 physicians and pharmacists in BC who receive the Therapeutics Letter and mailed them a copy of the survey. The 2011 survey consisted of 10 sections assessing the readers' opinions of the educational activities of the Therapeutics Initiative. In October 2011 the survey was mailed to 870 randomly selected physicians and pharmacists throughout BC. In December 2011 and January 2012 we sent reminders to those who had not responded. As an enticement individuals who responded had a chance to win one of three iPads. We received 391 completed surveys, a final response rate of 45%.

We summarized and published the answers to some of the questions included in the survey in Therapeutics Letter #86 (April-June 2012), which can be found at: <http://www.ti.ubc.ca/letter86>. This document contains the complete data on the responses to all the questions included in this survey.

A copy of the actual survey is included as an appendix at the end of this document.

## What describes you best?

	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	179 46%
GP / Family Physician	96 25%
Hospital Pharmacist	41 10%
Specialist	58 15%
Other	17 4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

**1. Have you participated in any of the Therapeutics Initiative's continuing education offerings?**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	22 12%	156 88%	178 100%
GP / Family Physician	46 48%	49 52%	95 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	16 39%	25 61%	41 100%
Specialist	8 14%	50 86%	58 100%
Other	8 47%	9 53%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b> <b>26%</b>	<b>289</b> <b>74%</b>	<b>389</b> <b>100%</b>

**2. Which TI events have you attended in the last two years?**

**a. "Bringing Best Evidence" Seminars**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	11 6%	168 94%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	20 21%	76 79%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	7 17%	34 83%	41 100%
Specialist	5 9%	53 91%	58 100%
Other	2 12%	15 88%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b> <b>12%</b>	<b>346</b> <b>89%</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

**b. Hospital Rounds**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	0 0%	179 100%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	10 11%	84 89%	94 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	5 13%	35 88%	40 100%
Specialist	5 9%	52 91%	57 100%
Other	0 0%	14 100%	14 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b> <b>5%</b>	<b>364</b> <b>95%</b>	<b>384</b> <b>100%</b>

### 3. Why have you not attended?

#### a. Inconvenient times

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	50	129	179
	28%	72%	100%
GP / Family Physician	31	65	96
	32%	68%	100%
Hospital Pharmacist	9	32	41
	22%	78%	100%
Specialist	10	48	58
	17%	83%	100%
Other	5	12	17
	29%	71%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>391</b>
	<b>27%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### b. Inconvenient location

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	49	130	179
	27%	73%	100%
GP / Family Physician	19	77	96
	20%	80%	100%
Hospital Pharmacist	13	28	41
	32%	68%	100%
Specialist	6	52	58
	10%	90%	100%
Other	3	14	17
	18%	82%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>391</b>
	<b>23%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### c. Topics were not of interest

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	8	170	178
	5%	96%	100%
GP / Family Physician	2	94	96
	2%	98%	100%
Hospital Pharmacist	2	39	41
	5%	95%	100%
Specialist	10	48	58
	17%	83%	100%
Other	3	14	17
	18%	82%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>390</b>
	<b>6%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### d. Did not know about it

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	87	92	179
	49%	51%	100%
GP / Family Physician	19	77	96
	20%	80%	100%
Hospital Pharmacist	11	30	41
	27%	73%	100%
Specialist	33	25	58
	57%	43%	100%
Other	1	16	17
	6%	94%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>391</b>
	<b>38%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>100%</b>

4. Indicate if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

a. TI provides information that I use in my practice

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Total
Community Pharmacist	73 41%	92 52%	11 6%	1 1%	177 100%
GP / Family Physician	49 52%	38 40%	5 5%	2 2%	94 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	16 40%	22 55%	2 5%	0 0%	40 100%
Specialist	22 39%	28 49%	6 11%	1 2%	57 100%
Other	3 19%	10 63%	1 6%	2 13%	16 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>163</b> <b>42%</b>	<b>190</b> <b>50%</b>	<b>25</b> <b>7%</b>	<b>6</b> <b>2%</b>	<b>384</b> <b>100%</b>

b. TI in general encourages the use of new medications

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Total
Community Pharmacist	18 11%	82 48%	62 36%	10 6%	172 100%
GP / Family Physician	3 3%	8 9%	43 46%	39 42%	93 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	4 10%	12 30%	20 50%	4 10%	40 100%
Specialist	0 0%	14 26%	28 51%	13 24%	55 100%
Other	0 0%	2 13%	8 50%	6 38%	16 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b> <b>7%</b>	<b>118</b> <b>31%</b>	<b>161</b> <b>43%</b>	<b>72</b> <b>19%</b>	<b>376</b> <b>100%</b>

**c. TI provides useful information about the cost of drugs**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	34 19%	100 57%	34 19%	7 4%	175 100%
GP / Family Physician	48 51%	43 45%	4 4%	0 0%	95 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	2 5%	30 77%	7 18%	0 0%	39 100%
Specialist	20 36%	30 55%	5 9%	0 0%	55 100%
Other	6 38%	6 38%	4 25%	0 0%	16 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b> <b>29%</b>	<b>209</b> <b>55%</b>	<b>54</b> <b>14%</b>	<b>7</b> <b>2%</b>	<b>380</b> <b>100%</b>

**d. TI functions independently from the drug industry**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	88 50%	77 44%	8 5%	2 1%	175 100%
GP / Family Physician	78 85%	11 12%	3 3%	0 0%	92 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	27 69%	11 28%	1 3%	0 0%	39 100%
Specialist	35 64%	18 33%	2 4%	0 0%	55 100%
Other	10 67%	4 27%	1 7%	0 0%	15 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b> <b>63%</b>	<b>121</b> <b>32%</b>	<b>15</b> <b>4%</b>	<b>2</b> <b>1%</b>	<b>376</b> <b>100%</b>

**e. TI functions independently from the government**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	72 41%	89 51%	11 6%	3 2%	175 100%
GP / Family Physician	40 44%	24 26%	21 23%	7 8%	92 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	12 32%	23 61%	2 5%	1 3%	38 100%
Specialist	19 35%	26 47%	9 16%	1 2%	55 100%
Other	4 27%	9 60%	1 7%	1 7%	15 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b> <b>39%</b>	<b>171</b> <b>46%</b>	<b>44</b> <b>12%</b>	<b>13</b> <b>4%</b>	<b>375</b> <b>100%</b>

5. The Therapeutics Initiative was established in 1994 at the University of British Columbia to provide physicians and pharmacists with up-to-date, unbiased, evidence based, practical information about drug therapy. **Indicate if you agree or disagree that the Therapeutics Initiative has been successful at meeting its mandate:**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	65 37%	104 59%	6 3%	2 1%	177 100%
GP / Family Physician	51 54%	29 31%	8 8%	7 7%	95 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	19 48%	21 53%	0 0%	0 0%	40 100%
Specialist	27 47%	20 35%	10 17%	1 2%	58 100%
Other	6 38%	6 38%	3 19%	1 6%	16 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b> <b>44%</b>	<b>180</b> <b>47%</b>	<b>27</b> <b>7%</b>	<b>11</b> <b>3%</b>	<b>386</b> <b>100%</b>

**6. Indicate if you agree or disagree that the information in the Therapeutics Letter is accurate and unbiased:**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	85 48%	88 50%	3 2%	1 1%	177 100%
GP / Family Physician	43 46%	35 38%	8 9%	7 8%	93 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	18 45%	22 55%	0 0%	0 0%	40 100%
Specialist	25 44%	21 37%	10 18%	1 2%	57 100%
Other	5 33%	8 53%	1 7%	1 7%	15 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b> <b>46%</b>	<b>174</b> <b>46%</b>	<b>22</b> <b>6%</b>	<b>10</b> <b>3%</b>	<b>382</b> <b>100%</b>

**7. Indicate if you have changed your prescribing/recommendations because of the information provided in:**

**a. Therapeutics Letter**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	60 34%	83 47%	10 6%	2 1%	20 11%	175 100%
GP / Family Physician	50 53%	35 37%	5 5%	2 2%	2 2%	94 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	12 31%	23 59%	1 3%	0 0%	3 8%	39 100%
Specialist	15 27%	28 50%	8 14%	1 2%	4 7%	56 100%
Other	5 33%	5 33%	0 0%	2 13%	3 20%	15 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b> <b>38%</b>	<b>174</b> <b>46%</b>	<b>24</b> <b>6%</b>	<b>7</b> <b>2%</b>	<b>32</b> <b>8%</b>	<b>379</b> <b>100%</b>

**b. "Bringing Best Evidence" Seminars**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	11 7%	35 21%	8 5%	3 2%	107 65%	164 100%
GP / Family Physician	24 30%	9 11%	2 3%	0 0%	45 56%	80 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	6 17%	4 11%	2 6%	0 0%	23 66%	35 100%
Specialist	4 8%	8 16%	6 12%	4 8%	29 57%	51 100%
Other	0 0%	1 8%	1 8%	1 8%	10 77%	13 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b> <b>13%</b>	<b>57</b> <b>17%</b>	<b>19</b> <b>6%</b>	<b>8</b> <b>2%</b>	<b>214</b> <b>62%</b>	<b>343</b> <b>100%</b>



**c. Hospital Rounds**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	4 3%	13 8%	9 6%	4 3%	130 81%	160 100%
GP / Family Physician	11 13%	12 15%	3 4%	0 0%	56 68%	82 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	7 20%	6 17%	4 11%	0 0%	18 51%	35 100%
Specialist	9 17%	13 25%	5 9%	4 8%	22 42%	53 100%
Other	2 14%	1 7%	1 7%	1 7%	9 64%	14 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b> <b>10%</b>	<b>45</b> <b>13%</b>	<b>22</b> <b>6%</b>	<b>9</b> <b>3%</b>	<b>235</b> <b>68%</b>	<b>344</b> <b>100%</b>

**d. TI Podcasts**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	12 8%	20 13%	12 8%	2 1%	113 71%	159 100%
GP / Family Physician	3 4%	4 5%	2 3%	0 0%	67 88%	76 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	3 9%	4 12%	3 9%	0 0%	24 71%	34 100%
Specialist	0 0%	8 16%	4 8%	4 8%	35 69%	51 100%
Other	0 0%	1 8%	1 8%	1 8%	10 77%	13 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b> <b>5%</b>	<b>37</b> <b>11%</b>	<b>22</b> <b>7%</b>	<b>7</b> <b>2%</b>	<b>249</b> <b>75%</b>	<b>333</b> <b>100%</b>

**e. Other educational activities**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	19 13%	32 22%	9 6%	1 1%	82 57%	143 100%
GP / Family Physician	19 26%	13 18%	1 1%	0 0%	41 55%	74 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	2 6%	8 24%	1 3%	0 0%	22 67%	33 100%
Specialist	10 20%	7 14%	7 14%	3 6%	23 46%	50 100%
Other	4 29%	1 7%	0 0%	1 7%	8 57%	14 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b> <b>17%</b>	<b>61</b> <b>19%</b>	<b>18</b> <b>6%</b>	<b>5</b> <b>2%</b>	<b>176</b> <b>56%</b>	<b>314</b> <b>100%</b>

**8. Which format of the Therapeutics Letter do you prefer?**

	<b>Hard copy</b>	<b>Website</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	71 40%	41 23%	64 36%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	66 69%	10 10%	15 16%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	13 32%	12 29%	14 34%	41 100%
Specialist	39 67%	11 19%	8 14%	58 100%
Other	7 41%	4 24%	4 24%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>196</b> <b>53%</b>	<b>78</b> <b>21%</b>	<b>105</b> <b>29%</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

**9. How often do you access the Therapeutics Initiative website?**

	<b>1 to 3 times a month</b>	<b>1 to 3 times a month</b>	<b>Less than once a month</b>	<b>More than once a week</b>	<b>Once a week</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Total</b>
Community Pharmacist	4 2%	24 13%	67 37%	2 1%	4 2%	77 43%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	1 1%	3 3%	23 24%	0 0%	2 2%	66 69%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	3 7%	2 5%	18 44%	0 0%	0 0%	16 39%	41 100%
Specialist	2 3%	2 3%	14 24%	1 2%	0 0%	39 67%	58 100%
Other	1 6%	1 6%	6 35%	0 0%	0 0%	8 47%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b> <b>3%</b>	<b>32</b> <b>8%</b>	<b>128</b> <b>33%</b>	<b>3</b> <b>1%</b>	<b>6</b> <b>2%</b>	<b>206</b> <b>52%</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

10. We would appreciate your suggestions to optimize therapeutics knowledge. **Which of the following activities would you like to see the TI develop and provide (mark all that apply):**

**a. Online materials**

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	117 65%	62 35%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	33 34%	63 66%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	24 59%	17 42%	41 100%
Specialist	24 41%	34 59%	58 100%
Other	8 47%	9 53%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>206</b> <b>53%</b>	<b>185</b> <b>47%</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

**b. Audio / Video Podcasts**

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	39 22%	140 78%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	16 17%	80 83%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	5 12%	36 88%	41 100%
Specialist	4 7%	54 93%	58 100%
Other	5 29%	12 71%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b> <b>18%</b>	<b>322</b> <b>82%</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

**c. Accredited CME**

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	118 66%	61 34%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	57 59%	39 41%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	25 61%	16 39%	41 100%
Specialist	27 47%	31 53%	58 100%
Other	12 71%	5 29%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>239</b> <b>61%</b>	<b>152</b> <b>39%</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

**d. Twitter / Facebook / Google+**

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	16 9%	163 91%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	0 0%	96 100%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	3 7%	38 93%	41 100%
Specialist	2 3%	56 97%	58 100%
Other	0 0%	17 100%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b> <b>5%</b>	<b>370</b> <b>95%</b>	<b>391</b> <b>100%</b>

**e. Educational events and seminars**

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	81 45%	98 55%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	46 48%	50 52%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	18 44%	23 56%	41 100%
Specialist	15 26%	43 74%	58 100%
Other	5 29%	12 71%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>165 42%</b>	<b>226 58%</b>	<b>391 100%</b>

**g. Online Courses**

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	106 59%	73 41%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	19 20%	77 80%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	16 39%	25 61%	41 100%
Specialist	10 17%	48 83%	58 100%
Other	5 29%	12 71%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>156 40%</b>	<b>235 60%</b>	<b>391 100%</b>

**f. iPhone / Android Apps**

	Yes	No	Total
Community Pharmacist	78 44%	101 56%	179 100%
GP / Family Physician	33 34%	63 66%	96 100%
Hospital Pharmacist	18 44%	23 56%	41 100%
Specialist	16 28%	42 72%	58 100%
Other	3 18%	14 82%	17 100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>148 38%</b>	<b>243 62%</b>	<b>391 100%</b>

# Therapeutics Initiative Survey (2011)

What describes you best?

GP / Family Physician

Community Pharmacist

Specialist

Hospital Pharmacist

1. Have you participated in any of the Therapeutics Initiative's continuing education offerings?

Yes  (jump to Q2.)

No  (jump to Q3.)

2. Which TI events have you attended in the last two years?

"Bringing Best Evidence" Seminars

Hospital Rounds

Other course or presentations: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why have you not attended?

Inconvenient times

Inconvenient location

Topics were not of interest

Did not know about it

If you did not know about it, what do you suggest to ensure practitioners like yourself are made aware of the program? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Indicate if you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

a) TI provides information that I use in my practice

b) TI in general encourages the use of new medications

c) TI provides useful information about the cost of drugs

d) TI functions independently from the drug industry

e) TI functions independently from the government

5. The Therapeutics Initiative was established in 1994 at the University of British Columbia to provide physicians and pharmacists with up-to-date, unbiased, evidence based, practical information about drug therapy. **Indicate if you agree or disagree that the Therapeutics Initiative has been successful at meeting its mandate:**

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

6. Indicate if you agree or disagree that the information in the Therapeutics Letter is accurate and unbiased:

Strongly Agree

Somewhat Agree

Somewhat Disagree

Strongly Disagree

Continued on reverse >>

7. As an organization, the Therapeutics Initiative is dedicated to effecting an immediate and long-term change in prescribing/recommending habits that will result in improved health care for patients in British Columbia. **Indicate if you have changed your prescribing/recommendations because of the information provided in:**

	Not Applicable	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a) Therapeutics Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) "Bringing Best Evidence" Seminars	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Hospital Rounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) TI Podcasts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Other educational activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Please provide an example:*

8. **Which format of the Therapeutics Letter do you prefer?**

Website	Hard copy	Both
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. **How often do you access the Therapeutics Initiative website?** [www.ti.ubc.ca](http://www.ti.ubc.ca)

- More than once a week
- Once a week
- 1 to 3 times a month
- Less than once a month
- Never

10. We would appreciate your suggestions to optimize therapeutics knowledge. **Which of the following activities would you like to see the TI develop and provide (mark all that apply):**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Online materials                | <input type="checkbox"/> Accredited CME               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audio / Video Podcasts          | <input type="checkbox"/> Twitter / Facebook / Google+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational events and seminars | <input type="checkbox"/> iPhone / Android Apps        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Online Courses                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                 |

11. **Do you have any suggestions for future topics?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

12. **Any other suggestions or comments:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_