

Newsletter

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Online Pharmacy's.

In recent years, online pharmacies have become extremely popular, with promises of saving 50-90% on medication. The way that these pharmacies can sell you medication at a cheaper price than what they may be sold for on your local drug store, is because different countries have different regulations, and some medications may be cheaper to purchase in other countries.

However, recently these online pharmacies have become cause for concern, The problem is that in Canada, in order to receive a specific medication, you must have a prescription from a doctor, and the reason for that is so that you cannot self medicate yourself.

The process of being able to order the medication of your choice, just by using your credit card, creates potential for disaster.

Imagine a patient who has an addiction to pain killers, being able to order unlimited amounts of their medication as they please.

Or a heart patient being able to order different medications not knowing that they could cause complications.

These are some of the potential problems which is becoming more and more common.

There have been other reports of medication such as

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September Hours:

ST Computer Services will be open on Sundays during the month of September.

Pirated DVD's

The market for pirated DVD's has become an excessive problem in the past year. Some of this summer's biggest blockbusters were pre-released on DVD even before it hit theatres. Eventually the source was traced back to a man in Aus-

tralia who had recorded the film on his cell phone, and then released it on the internet for millions of viewers to see before the movie was officially released. However DVD's and movies are not the only ones prone to being

leaked to the public before their release date. Recently the Harry Potter book was leaked onto the internet before the book was put out for sale.

In some ways this situation of pirating DVD's and leaking them onto the

Onsite tech support (home users)

In-home tech support - 70.00/hr

Our in home/on-site support is provided at \$70.00 per hour within the city of Toronto and \$5.00 more per region, Please refer to the map on our customer page for more accurate rates for our services.

Toronto - \$70.00/hour*

York Region - \$75.00/hour*(Markham, Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Aurora, King Township.)

Peel Region - \$75.00/hour* (Mississauga, Brampton)

Durham 1 - \$80.00/hour* (Ajax, Pickering)

Durham 2 - \$85.00/hour* (Whitby, Oshawa, Clarington, Bowmanville)

Emergency's - All Emergency On-site (Before 6pm the same day) will be considered a **4 hour minimum**.

Summary of Services

Business tech support - \$85.00/hr

Running your own business can be stressful, and having to constantly worry about equipment breaking down, or having problems is always a concern. However having your own tech support team can be expensive, and may not be necessary. We offer our support services to various businesses across the GTA, including customers in the 4800 Leslie St. Medical Clinic, 3000 Lawrence Ave East, 3160 Steeles Ave East, as well as several home based businesses. Reliable equipment can make all the difference, which is why so many businesses count on us for their technical needs.

We also offer monthly service contracts and maintenance programs in order to ensure that you can do your work. Work can be performed after hours or on weekends, so that precious time is not wasted, and doesn't conflict with your busy working schedule.

Business support Rates:

City of Toronto - \$85.00/hour* (416 area code only)

York Region - \$95.00/hour* (Markham, Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Aurora, King Township.)

Peel Region - \$95.00/hour* (Mississauga, Brampton)

Durham 1 - \$90.00/hour*(Ajax, Pickering)

Durham 2 - \$95.00/hour* (Whitby, Oshawa, Clarington, Bowmanville)

Emergency's - All Emergency On-site (Before 6pm the same day) will be considered a **4 hour minimum**.

Effective September 1st 2007



Viagra being nothing more than Blue pills which had no enhancing ingredients at all.

Although taking a candy labeled as Viagra may not cause any harm to you, if was made of some other unknown substance or was created in an unsanitary environment there could be potential health hazards.

Some of these problems could be blamed on the actual consumers, for not paying more attention to the products they order, or being cautious about the place they are ordering from.

Although that doesn't rule out the fact that your local pharmacy may intentionally or unintentionally give you fake medication, there is a difference. All pharmacies in Canada need to be licensed, and a pharmacy cannot operate without a pharmacist being present. This is contrary to online pharmacies which may be located overseas, and may or may not be licensed. Taking into consideration that even if they are licensed in the country in which they operate from, that may differ from licenses in your home country.

According to statistics from the World Health Organization, it is estimated that up to 10% of the market share of developed nations consists of counterfeit medication, with the majority of them coming from online pharmacies, and is predicted that sales of counterfeit medication could reach \$75 billion dollars before 2010.

In recent years, counterfeiting has become such a problem, that many people have even died from ingesting counterfeit medication. Such as in 1995 when citizens of the country Niger were given a vaccine during a meningitis epidemic, out of the 50 000 people who received the vaccine, 2500 died. Although the medication was paid for by the WTO, it has been intercepted during delivery in Niger, where part of the shipment was substituted with a counterfeit drug with no active ingredient.

The FDA (Federal Drug Administration) and Health Canada have posted warnings on their website pertaining to counterfeit medication being sold at "legitimate and registered" pharma-

cies on the internet. They advice the public to pay close attention to the detail of the product, if it is the same size, if the color is slightly different, or if the shape has changed slightly, which are all possible signs of counterfeiting.

Why would anyone do such a thing? Especially in a time of crisis or there is an outbreak, it could over inflate the value of the medication to multiple times it's normal price.

Although these are not cases where individuals have purchased medication from a online pharmacy and became ill or found them to be counterfeit, there have been multiple cases of individuals who purchased counterfeit medication where it has lead to serious illness or death.

Recently a report released by the Canadian Pharmacists Association has confirmed a reported case of a B.C. woman dying as a result of ingesting medication which was purchased from a fake online pharmacy. It was later determined that the drugs contained a high metal content, which lead to her death. Although the report does not specify which medication, and which pharmacy it was purchased from, they have released a warning which warns individuals of the possible dangers in purchasing medication from online pharmacies. It states that more than half of the online pharmacies conceal their true address, and although they may claim that they are based in Canada, that may not be true.

Currently there are no true ways to verify if an online pharmacy is legitimate, since there is no regulations to determine what is and what is not a legitimate pharmacy. Even if there are testimonials by "real" people who claim they have satisfied purchases, that could easily be falsified, which don't add much credibility to online pharmacies.

In the end it is up to the consumer to make decision for their own health and well being, and if you feel that the money you potentially save is worth endangering your life, then that is up to you to decide.

For more information on this topic visit the health Canada website. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/index_e.html

Back to School Special



Model: L1953H-BF
19" LCD Monitor

\$249.99

- ▷ Display Type: 19 inches
- ▷ Brightness: 300 nits
- ▷ Contrast Ratio: DFC 2000:1
- ▷ Fast Response Time: 5ms
- ▷ Resolution: 1280 x 1024
- ▷ Viewing Angle: H:170, V:170

Compaq Presario SR5013WM Desktop PC (RX894AA) ... \$499.99

P4-641 3.2G, 512MB, 160GB, DVD±Writer w/ LightScribe, 56K Modem, NIC, Vista Home

Front 2 x USB, audio in & out Rear 2 x PS2, 1 x VGA, 4 x USB, 1 x Firewire, 1 x LAN, audio in & out.

DVD's Cont.

internet for people to download, has been brought upon by the industry as a whole. Essentially the price of something is determined by how much the consumer is willing to pay for a particular product or service. For example, if the general public is willing to pay \$100.00 per ticket to watch Harry Potter at the theatre, then it would be justified for the companies to do so. However the reality is that a lot of people would rather download or watch it on You tube for free.

Considering that if you go to the movies, you have to pay \$12.00 per ticket, plus parking, not including paying another \$12.00 for stale popcorn, and watered down pop. With so many movies

coming out every week, you would have to have a lot of disposable income in order to be able to afford going to the movies to watch all of them.

The other issue is regionally dedicated DVD's. It was originally created so that different regions of the world would use different systems, to ensure that if a DVD was released in one part of the world, it could not be leaked to the other part of the world. It would also ensure that the companies could capitalize as much as they wanted to since the disks were restricted for sales within their respectively programmed regions. However for the consumer who wants to watch a DVD which is only

released in Asia cannot watch their DVD in North America even though by purchasing the original DVD they now own the license to that disk. Assuming that the disk was available for purchase in North America, it would cost close to double what it would cost in Asia simply because of the tariffs and shipping costs involved. This is the main reason why pirated DVD's have become so popular. Essentially the consumer has decided that paying twice the amount for the same product is not justifiable.

If you ask the broadcast and film companies they would argue that sale of those disks are harming their industry, but in fact if they had made

that programming readily available at a reasonable cost then this problem would not be where it is now.

It is understandable that the industry needs ways of controlling the distribution of their product, however regardless of how it is looked at, it is still an illegal act, and the public's mentality must change. Authorities must also create harsher punishments for those involved, not just by increasing fines, but also by adding incarceration as part of the punishment. The other problem is that having these types of stores within the same location creates problems for other legitimate businesses since their legitimate business becomes compromised.

For more information or for comments please contact:

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