



# A Wholesaler's Overview of PharmacyChecker Accreditation

### The PC IPVP

The PharmacyChecker (PC) International Pharmacy Verification Program (IPVP) was established in 2003 with a mission to protect public health across the globe by helping patient-consumers, their caregivers, and clinicians find information about safe online pharmacies that sell affordable medicines.

### What is an accredited wholesaler?

A wholesaler sells and/or distributes prescription medications to authorized dispensing pharmacies, hospitals and/or licensed prescribers.

To ensure a high standard of the supply chain of ethically promoted products, all tier 2 dispensing pharmacies in the PC IPVP – defined as those that dispense medicines from a country or trade zone without the oversight of an Advanced Regulatory Authority – must only purchase products from licensed wholesalers that demonstrate continued compliance with PharmacyChecker Standards and Policies.

### **Key Requirements**

Wholesalers that adhere to PC Standards and Policies play a key role in maintaining the integrity of the pharmaceutical supply chain. Their compliance ensures that tier 2 dispensing pharmacies (those in countries without Advanced Regulatory Authority oversight) only source medications from trusted suppliers.

Accredited wholesalers must demonstrate compliance with all applicable PC IPVP policies, including:

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#### LICENSURE AND COMPLIANCE

- Must maintain all relevant business and regulatory licenses for wholesale operations.
- Required to validate the credentials (e.g., licenses) of all entities to which medications are distributed.



#### **SUPPLY CHAIN INTEGRITY**

- Medications must come from ethically promoted global manufacturers or licensed wholesale suppliers.
- Wholesalers must ensure high standards of proper storage, security, and distribution of safe and quality medication products.
- In countries without advanced regulatory oversight, wholesalers must only supply medications approved by global manufacturers with verified quality standards.



#### CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

- Wholesalers outside the U.S. cannot market or distribute controlled substances into the U.S. unless they possess a valid U.S. DEA registration.
- Wholesalers within the U.S. must comply with all federal and state laws regarding controlled substances.



### TRANSPARENCY AND RECORD-KEEPING

- Must provide accurate and truthful information regarding the source of medications.
- Essential to have standard operating procedures that ensure compliance with applicable regulations and PharmacyChecker policies.
- Required to maintain secure and accurate record-keeping of inventory, transactions, and dispositions of medications for auditing purposes.

The above is only a shortlist of requirements of wholesalers in the PC IPVP. Before applying, please carefully review the terms in the documents below:

- Accreditation Standards & Guide Details best practices & standards with policy references
- <u>Guidance Policies</u> Provides additional details to standards that reference policies
- <u>Accreditation Agreement</u> An agreement to adhere to Accreditation Standards



### **Benefits of PharmacyChecker Accreditation**

PharmacyChecker accreditation boosts wholesalers' credibility and trust in the pharmaceutical supply chain, enhancing your operations.



### Credibility

PharmacyChecker accreditation enhances credibility, providing wholesalers with a mark of quality that assures pharmacies and consumers of compliance with high standards.



#### **Stand Out**

In a competitive landscape, PharmacyChecker accreditation sets your business apart. making it a compelling choice for pharmacies seeking reliable suppliers.



### **Partner Access**

Accreditation opens doors to partnerships and contracts through the PharmacyChecker **Network**, connecting wholesalers with pharmacies that prioritize quality and compliance.



### **Compliance**

PharmacyChecker accreditation aligns with industry regulations, enhancing operational resilience and reducing liability.



#### **Confidence**

PharmacyChecker accreditation serves as a powerful marketing tool best displayed through the **PharmacyChecker Seal**, reinforcing your brand as a trustworthy supplier.



### Quality Commitment

The rigorous accreditation process underscores a commitment to quality and safety, helping wholesalers identify improvement areas and ensure patient safety.



### **Supply Transparency**

Accreditation fosters transparency in the supply chain, building long-term relationships with buyers who value accountability and quality control.



### What is the PC Network?

The PC Network, available only to *Accredited* and *Seal Status* wholesalers, includes contact information of accredited dispensing pharmacies and online pharmacies that have also opted into sharing their information, with locations across the globe, including those in the United States, Canada, Australia, India, Mauritius, New Zealand, Turkey, and the United Kingdom.

### What is the PharmacyChecker Seal?

The PharmacyChecker Seal, displayed on *Seal Status* wholesalers' websites and/or other marketing materials, represents the accreditation and continuous monitoring of a wholesaler that has been verified to market and sell prescription drugs to accredited dispensing partners in good standing in the countries where they are located. It shows potential clients that they are dealing with a reputable wholesaler. The PharmacyChecker Seal also allows a wholesaler to showcase dedication and compliance with PC IPVP policies, connecting online pharmacies, dispensing pharmacies, and wholesalers with an international chain of partners committed to patient safety.







### **Choose Your PC IPVP Participation**

### **Standard**

For wholesalers who sell domestically and/or internationally

\$625 application fee

\$185/month

once approved (or \$2,220 annually)\*

#### Apply Now

- PC IPVP Accreditation
- Approved to partner with PC accredited dispensing pharmacies
- Enhanced reputation among both pharmacies and consumers
- ✓ Continuous compliance monitoring by PC IPVP
- Access to educational resources and updates on regulatory changes
- Optional access to global PC Network
- X Priority Access to PC IPVP Support Team
- X Licensed display of the PC IPVP Seal

### **Seal Status**

For wholesalers who sell domestically and/or internationally

\$625 application fee

 $^\$210$   $_{/\mathsf{month}}$ 

once approved (or \$2,520 annually)\*

### **Apply Now**

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- Approved to partner with PC accredited dispensing pharmacies
- Enhanced reputation among both pharmacies and consumers
- Continuous compliance monitoring by PC IPVP
- Access to educational resources and updates on regulatory changes
- Optional access to global PC Network
- Priority Access to PC IPVP Support Team
- ✓ Licensed display of the PC IPVP Seal

### **Basic**

Only for wholesalers who sell to domestic dispensing partners

- ✓ PC IPVP Compliance
- ✓ Approved to partner with PC accredited dispensing pharmacies

\$625/annual check\*

**Apply Now** 

\*Upon failed compliance audits of Tier 2 wholesalers, those located in countries with limited regulatory oversight, remote inspections may be conducted to ensure adherence to safety and quality standards. If the necessity of a remote inspection arises, a \$600 fee will be applied.

### **Next Steps: Awaiting Application Review**

Once you submit your application or annual compliance check, PharmacyChecker will assess your answers and associated documentation, including verifying licenses and compliance with practice standards.

Use the <u>Participant Portal Guide</u> to help you complete necessary audits in your <u>Participant Portal</u>.

An application to the PC IPVP does not guarantee accreditation in the PC IPVP or Basic compliance with PC IPVP standards. Ultimately, a wholesaler is only accredited in the PC IPVP if they meet and maintain the strict requirements of PC IPVP Accreditation Standards and Policies. Ultimately, a wholesaler is only approved under Basic compliance once the PC IPVP team issues its approval.

If an applicant is not cooperative with the compliance process, and fails to demonstrate timely communication within three months from submitting their application, a wholesaler applicant or a wholesaler seeking a Basic compliance check has options:

- The application and/or compliance check is withdrawn.
- Wholesaler pays an additional fee (\$625) to continue the PC IPVP application or compliance check process for another three months.

The PC IPVP encourages active applicants to reach out to the compliance team with any questions, concerns, or documentation throughout the application process. Following approval, **Seal Status** accredited wholesalers will enjoy Priority Access to the PC IPVP team.



### **PharmacyChecker**

## A Globally Trusted Resource for Pharmacy Verification

PharmacyChecker is a trusted platform, recognized both in the U.S. and internationally, for verifying international online pharmacies and comparing prescription drug prices. PharmacyChecker helps people find the lowest prices on prescription medication among licensed pharmacies located across the globe, and the company plays a crucial advocacy role in promoting access to affordable medications and supporting consumer rights.

PharmacyChecker has wide recognition in the U.S. and internationally, in patient advocacy circles, academic publications, and popular media, as a critical service for patients looking on the internet to afford lawfully manufactured and properly dispensed medicines. PharmacyChecker is <u>frequently cited and recommended</u> by popular and well-respected media channels including AARP, CNN, The New York Times, National Public Radio, and the Wall Street Journal. <u>JAMA</u>, a peer-reviewed medical journal published by the American Medical Association, recommends that patients and clinicians use PharmacyChecker "to find a reputable online pharmacy that can supply high-quality prescription drugs."

### **Contact**

333 MAMARONECK AVENUE, WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10605 (+1) 781 554 3067

SEALPROGRAM@PHARMACYCHECKER.COM

WWW.PHARMACYCHECKER.COM

