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December 21, 2020

Thank you very much for providing the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the Consultation on new additions to the Pathogens of Interest List.

CSHP represents pharmacy professionals working in hospitals and other collaborative healthcare settings who seek excellence in patient care through the advancement of safe and effective medication use. A non-profit organization, CSHP offers its over 3,000 pharmacist and pharmacy technician members a national voice through advocacy, education, information sharing, promotion of best practices, conferences, facilitation of research, and recognition of excellence.

We applaud Health Canada's efforts to support innovative human therapeutic products to combat antimicrobial resistance, allowing Canadians to quickly access to drugs and diagnostic devices targeting pathogens on the List. Our members who are hospital pharmacists recognize the issues of increasing antimicrobial resistance and the impact of *Clostridium difficile* infections secondary to broad spectrum and/or prolonged antimicrobial usage.

We support Health Canada's policy to give more access to Fecal Microbiota Therapy treatment for patients suffering from recurrent *Clostridium difficile* infections as this condition can be quite debilitating for those impacted. Additionally, we are pleased to see Health Canada participate on the Transatlantic Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TTFR) and the International Coalition on Medicines Regulatory Authorities (ICMRA) to combat antimicrobial resistance, as international travel plays a key role in the spread of highly resistant strains.

We are also delighted to hear of increased funding in research and development of diagnostic tools that identify and characterize antibiotic resistant bacteria and/or distinguish between viral and bacterial infections to address antimicrobial resistant infections.

We have reviewed the proposal and do not have any comments or concerns with it at this time. We thank Health Canada for your consultation and for your continued work on the area of antimicrobial resistance and expediting the processes to allow Canadians access to novel medications and diagnostic devices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina Adams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Christina Adams  
Chief Pharmacy Officer  
Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists