



October 16, 2000

### **Use of Pharmaceuticals in North America**

- Canadians spend 10 billion dollars per annum on drugs, and this is rising at a rate of 10% annually
- 100,000 people die each year in US hospitals from adverse drug reactions
- Deaths from drugs, are among the top 5 categories of diseases resulting in death
- A drug without side effects is a drug without effect

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### **MEDITECH UPDATE - ARTHRITIS**

Arthritis is Canada's second most costly illness at 9 billion cost per annum and is the number 1 cause of long term disability in Canada. Arthritis is also the third most common reason why people use prescription drugs. Companies state that less than 200 million worth of medication can replace thousands of dollars in cost of surgeries.

Low Intensity Laser Therapy, at a fraction of the cost for medications and surgery, can control and/or cure this disease without any negative side effects. I can state without hesitation that it is by far the most ideal therapy in dealing with this vast disease problem. Most importantly it allows the patient to be active and improves their quality of life.