

COVERAGE OF CONTINUED CARE PRESCRIPTIONS UNDER THE PHARMACARE PROGRAMS

In a May 1, 2006 Professional Memorandum, the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists provided details of the "Continued Care Prescriptions Agreement" between the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia. The agreement authorizes pharmacists to extend existing prescriptions as continued care prescriptions (CCPs) provided certain conditions are met.

Effective immediately, pharmacists may submit claims for CCPs to the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs for reimbursement provided:

- The medication being continued is **not** a benzodiazepine or a drug monitored by the Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program.
- The CCP is for an eligible benefit under the applicable Pharmacare Program.
- The pharmacist prescribing the CCP is licensed with the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists.
- The physician who prescribed the original prescription being extended is licensed with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia.
- The patient has an immediate need for a prescription extension and the patient's physician is unavailable to provide refill authorization.
- The pharmacist is reasonably satisfied that the physician, if available, would provide the authorization.
- The medication to be continued is for a chronic or long-term condition.
- The patient has established a stable history with the medication (no recent changes to dosages or drug therapy).
- The prescription is being extended in the same pharmacy where it originated and the patient is under the current care of that pharmacy.
- The prescription has not previously been extended though a CCP.
- The amount of the medication provided does not exceed the previous amount prescribed or one month (30 days), whichever is lesser.
- The CCP is documented in a manner that complies with all applicable legislation. It is assigned its own prescription number and the prescription number of the prescription being extended must be noted on the CCP.

- The pharmacist signs the CCP as the prescriber, thereby assuming full responsibility for the CCP.
- CCPs are retained by the pharmacy in compliance with all applicable legislation and are available for Pharmacare audit. (Refer to the Audit Section in the Pharmacare Programs Pharmacists' Guide for the prescription audit procedures that apply.)

As with any other prescription, the CCP should be documented on the patient's medication profile. The primary care physician or physician providing overall care to the patient, if different from the prescribing physician, should be notified of the CCP as soon as reasonably possible.

Claims Submission:

CCPs are to be billed to the Pharmacare Programs for real-time, electronic adjudication as follows:

- Claims must include the prescription number assigned to the CCP.
- Claims must have an "N" in the New/Refill code field and an "EA" (pharmacist authorized off-hours claim) in the Intervention/Exception Code field. (Refer to the *Canadian Pharmacists Association Pharmacy Claim Standard*.)
- Claims must have the pharmacist prescribing number in the Prescriber field. Until individual prescribing numbers are assigned, all pharmacists will use the interim pharmacist prescriber number, **9000**. (Refer to the *Canadian Pharmacists Association Pharmacy Claim Standard*.)
- Claims must be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Tariff Agreement. Reimbursement will be in accordance with the payment rules of this Agreement.

INCLUDED WITH THIS BULLETIN:

- ▶ Coverage of Continued Care Prescriptions
- ▶ Coverage of Pharmacist-Prescribed Benefits
- ▶ AeroChamber® - New Fee, effective June 7, 2006
- ▶ New Products, effective June 1, 2006
- ▶ Interchangeable Products List, effective June 1, 2006

COVERAGE OF PHARMACIST-PRESCRIBED BENEFITS UNDER THE PHARMACARE PROGRAMS

Effective immediately, pharmacists licensed with the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists may prescribe and submit claims to any of the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs for eligible benefits in the following ATC categories in the Nova Scotia Formulary:

- R07AX01 Miscellaneous Respiratory Products (AeroChambers™)
- V04CA02 Glucose (Diabetes Supplies listed in the Miscellaneous Section)
- V07AS01 Stomi Equipment (Ostomy Supplies listed in the Miscellaneous Section)

To be eligible for reimbursement:

- The pharmacist must document a prescription for each supply, specifying the number of refills. The prescription must comply with all applicable legislation.
- The pharmacist must sign the prescription as the prescriber, thereby assuming full responsibility for the prescription.
- Once a product is established for a patient, the pharmacist must prescribe a minimum of 30 days supply.

- Prescriptions must be retained by the pharmacy in compliance with all applicable legislation and must be available for Pharmacare audit. (Refer to the Audit Section in the Pharmacare Programs Pharmacists' Guide for the prescription audit procedures that apply.)

Claims Submission:

Prescriptions for pharmacist-prescribed supplies are to be billed to the Pharmacare Programs for real-time, electronic adjudication as follows:

- Claims must have the pharmacist prescribing number in the Prescriber field. (Refer to the *Canadian Pharmacists Association Pharmacy Claim Standard*.) Until individual prescribing numbers are assigned, all pharmacists will use the interim pharmacist prescriber number, **9000**.
- Claims must be submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Tariff Agreement. Reimbursement will be in accordance with the payment rules of this Agreement.

NEW PRODUCTS

The following products are "New Listings to the Nova Scotia Formulary" *effective June 1, 2006*. The benefit status of each product within the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs is indicated.

<u>DIN</u>	<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>MFR</u>	<u>BENEFIT STATUS</u>
02270668	Co Clonazepam 1mg Tab	COB	SF
02269015	Tarceva 100mg Tab	HLR	E
02269023	Tarceva 150mg Tab	HLR	E
02260565	Xolair 150mg/vial Inj	NVR	not insured

CRITERIA FOR COVERAGE OF NEW BENEFITS

Erlotinib (Tarceva®)

- as monotherapy for the treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic NSCLC after failure of at least one prior chemotherapy regimen and whose EGFR expression status is positive or unknown

NEW NURSE PRACTITIONERS

The following nurse practitioner has been added to this group of prescribers.

Helen MacRae (License #719963)

Please retain for your reference. See the Nova Scotia Formulary for Pharmacare benefits which can be insured if prescribed by nurse practitioners.

AEROCHAMBER® PROFESSIONAL FEE INCREASE

EFFECTIVE JUNE 7, 2006

Spacer devices were approved as an Exception Status Benefit under the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs in 2000.

Effective June 7, 2006, the professional fee for these devices has been increased to the fee in the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Tariff Agreement of \$10.42 and will be applied by entering *Criteria Code "01"* when dispensing a spacer device.

INTERCHANGEABLE PRODUCTS ADDED TO NOVA SCOTIA FORMULARY
Effective June 1, 2006

EXISTING CATEGORIES:

Note: For those products with benefit status under the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs, the existing MAC will apply.

	<u>DIN</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>MFR</u>	<u>Benefit Status</u>
ALENDRONATE 70mg Tab	02275279	ratio-Alendronate	RPH	E
ATENOLOL 100mg Tab	02267993	RAN-Atenolol	RBX	SF
AZITHROMYCIN 250mg Tab	02265826	Sandoz-Azithromycin	SDZ	E
BICALUTAMIDE 50mg Tab	02277700	ratio-Bicalutamide	RPH	SFC
CALCITONIN 200iu/dose Nasal Spray	02261766	Sandoz-Calcitonin NS	SDZ	E
CARBAMAZEPINE 100mg Chewable Tab	02261855	Sandoz-Carbamazepine	SDZ	SFC
CARBAMAZEPINE 200mg Chewable Tab	02261863	Sandoz-Carbamazepine	SDZ	SFC
CARBAMAZEPINE 200mg CR Tab	02261839	Sandoz-Carbamazepine CR	SDZ	SFC
CARBAMAZEPINE 400mg CR Tab	02261847	Sandoz-Carbamazepine CR	SDZ	SFC
CIPROFLOXACIN 250mg Tab	02266962	Taro-Ciprofloxacin	TAR	E
CIPROFLOXACIN 500mg Tab	02266970	Taro-Ciprofloxacin	TAR	E
CLONAZEPAM 0.5mg Tab	02270641	Co Clonazepam	COB	SF
CLONAZEPAM 2mg Tab	02270676	Co Clonazepam	COB	SF
DICLOFENAC POTASSIUM 50mg Tab	02261774	Sandoz-Diclofenac Rapide	SDZ	not insured
DICLOFENAC SODIUM 25mg EC Tab	02261952	Sandoz-Diclofenac	SDZ	SF
DICLOFENAC SODIUM 50mg EC Tab	02261960	Sandoz-Diclofenac	SDZ	SF
DICLOFENAC SODIUM 75mg SR Tab	02261901	Sandoz-Diclofenac SR	SDZ	SF
DICLOFENAC SODIUM 100mg SR Tab	02261944	Sandoz-Diclofenac SR	SDZ	SF
DOMPERIDONE MALEATE 10mg Tab	02278669	Gen-Domperidone	GPM	SFC
GABAPENTIN 600mg Tab	02260913	ratio-Gabapentin	RPH	E
GABAPENTIN 800mg Tab	02260921	ratio-Gabapentin	RPH	E
GLIMEPIRIDE 1mg Tab	02273756	Novo-Glimepiride	NOP	not insured
GLIMEPIRIDE 2mg Tab	02273764	Novo-Glimepiride	NOP	not insured
GLIMEPIRIDE 4mg Tab	02273772	Novo-Glimepiride	NOP	not insured
HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE 50mg & AMILORIDE HCl 5mg Tab	02257378	Gen-Amilazide	GPM	SF
MIRTAZAPINE 30mg Tab	02274361	Co Mirtazapine	COB	SFC
PINDOLOL 5mg Tab	02261782	Sandoz-Pindolol	SDZ	SF
PINDOLOL 10mg Tab	02261790	Sandoz-Pindolol	SDZ	SF
PINDOLOL 15mg Tab	02261804	Sandoz-Pindolol	SDZ	SF
SUMATRIPTAN 50mg Tab	02271583	ratio-Sumatriptan	RPH	E
SUMATRIPTAN 100mg Tab	02271591	ratio-Sumatriptan	RPH	E
TERBINAFINE 250mg Tab	02262177	Sandoz-Terbinafine	SDZ	E

DIN CHANGE:

Note: The respective manufacturer has given notification of the following change in DIN and product formulation. The new DIN is approved for interchangeability in the existing category. The old DIN will continue to be insured until existing stock is depleted but will be removed from future formulary pages.

	<u>Product</u>	<u>MFR</u>	<u>OLD DIN</u>	<u>NEW DIN</u>
FENOFIBRATE 200mg Cap	pms-Fenofibrate Micro	PMS	02231780	02273551

NEW CATEGORIES:

Note: Until a MAC price is established, AAC will be paid for those products with benefit status under the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs. These categories will appear in the next publication of the MAC List.

	<u>DIN</u>	<u>Product</u>	<u>MFR</u>	<u>Benefit Status</u>
BENAZAPRIL 20mg Tab	02273918	Apo-Benazepril	APX	SF
	00885851	Lotensin	NVR	SF
FENOFIBRATE 100mg Tab	02246859	Apo-Feno-Super	APX	SF
	02241601	Lipidil Supra	FFR	SF
FENOFIBRATE 160mg Tab	02246860	Apo-Feno-Super	APX	SF
	02241602	Lipidil Supra	FFR	SF
ISOSORBIDE MONONITRATE 60mg Tab	02272830	Apo-ISMN	APX	E
	02126559	Imdur ER	AZE	E
OMEPRAZOLE 20mg Cap	02245058	Apo-Omeprazole	APX	E
	00846503	Losec (discontinued)	AZE	E
OMEPRAZOLE 20mg Cap/Tab	02245058	Apo-Omeprazole	APX	E
	02190915	Losec	AZE	E
ONDANSETRON 4mg Tab	02264056	Novo-Ondansetron	NOP	E
	02258188	pms-Ondansetron	PMS	E
	02278529	ratio-Ondansetron	RPH	E
	02274310	Sandoz-Ondansetron	SDZ	E
	02213567	Zofran	GSK	E
ONDANSETRON 8mg Tab	02264064	Novo-Ondansetron	NOP	E
	02258196	pms-Ondansetron	PMS	E
	02278537	ratio-Ondansetron	RPH	E
	02274329	Sandoz-Ondansetron	SDZ	E
	02213575	Zofran	GSK	E
ZIDOVUDINE 100mg Cap	01946323	Apo-Zidovudine	APX	not insured
	01902660	Retrovir	GSK	not insured