

NEW INFORMATION

Pharmacist Initiated Prescribing for Allergic Rhinitis and Allergic Conjunctivitis

Effective June 15, 2015, the NIHB Program will accept claims for pharmacist initiated prescriptions for First Nations and Inuit clients to treat allergic rhinitis and allergic conjunctivitis, where allowed by provincial and territorial legislation. **Please refer to your provincial or territorial regulatory authorities for specifics related to the extended scope of practice in your area, as they differ between provinces or territories and as this section may not apply to your situation.** NIHB will reimburse these prescriptions as per usual regional reimbursement policies of the Program. The reasons for prescribing and client specific details must be documented as per the provincial and territorial legislation and be available for review if necessary on audit. NIHB does not compensate pharmacists for professional services including the cost of assessing the client.

For the treatment of allergic rhinitis, this will include oral medications and nasal sprays as identified in the chart below. Please note, leukotriene receptor antagonists are not covered through the NIHB Program for allergic rhinitis or other allergy indications.

i) Allergic rhinitis medications covered through pharmacist-initiated prescribing:

| DINs | GENERIC DRUG NAME |
|--|-------------------|
| Nasal Sprays | |
| 02172712, 02228300, 02238796 | beclomethasone Aq |
| 02238465, 02403587 | mometasone |
| 02213672, 02294745, 02296071 | fluticasone |
| 02035324, 02231923, 02241003, 02230648 | budesonide |
| 02213834 | triamcinolone |
| 02020017 | levocabastine |
| 01950541, 02231390 | cromolyn Sodium |
| 02163705, 02239627, 02240508, 02246083, 02163713, 02246084 | ipratropium |
| Oral medications | |
| 02223554, 02231603, 02315955, 02375095, 01900978, 02315963, 02427192, 02238337 | cetirizine |
| 00021288, 00738964, 00738972, | chlorpheniramine |
| 02243919, 02298155, 02338424, 02369656, 02247193 | desloratadine |
| 02017849, 02097583, 02176483, 02229492, 02239029, 00757691, 02019671, 02019698, 00792705, 00804193, 00833266, 02019736, 02298503, 00757683, 01949454 | diphenhydramine |
| 02231462, 02242819 | fexofenadine |
| 00782696, 02243880, 02280159, 02241523 | loratadine |

For the treatment of allergic conjunctivitis, this will include oral medications as noted in the chart (i) for allergic rhinitis and eye drops indicated in the treatment of allergic conjunctivitis as noted in the chart (ii).

ii) Eye drops covered through pharmacists-initiated prescribing:

| DINs | GENERIC DRUG NAME |
|--|-------------------|
| Eye Drops | |
| 02230621, 02009277 | cromolyn Sodium |
| 00893560 | lodoxamide |
| 02241407 | nedocromil |
| 02233143, 02305054, 02358913, 02403986, 02402823, 02404095, 02420171 | olopatadine |

NIHB continues to review expanded scope of practice legislation in each region to determine which additional conditions or minor ailments may be added to the list of items for which pharmacist initiated prescribing is accepted by the Program.

Coverage of Buspirone

Effective April 21, 2015, buspirone oral tablets, 10 mg became an open benefit based on a recommendation from NIHB and the Drugs and Therapeutics Advisory Committee (DTAC). The listing status of oral buspirone was changed from non-benefit to open benefit.

In changing the status of buspirone, the NIHB Program supported by the DTAC, increased client access to alternative treatments for anxiety.

Change in Approval Process for Insulin Pumps and Viscosupplementation Products

As of May 4, 2015, the NIHB Program changed the approval process for insulin pumps and viscosupplements (i.e. Synvisc, Orthovisc, etc.). NIHB no longer requires requests to be faxed using the NIHB General Medical Supplies and Equipment Prior Approval form.

Providers should call the NIHB Drug Exception Centre (DEC) at 1-800-580-0950 for viscosupplementation product and insulin pump requests.

NIHB will continue to apply evidence based evaluation criteria when reviewing requests for these items.

NIHB Program and Express Scripts Canada Contact Information can be found on the last page of this NIHB Newsletter.

Lancet pseudo DIN changes

Effective July 6, 2015, NIHB will be standardizing the list of pseudo DINs (on the Drug Benefit List (DBL)) for Lancets used for diabetic blood glucose monitoring.

Pseudo DINs Remaining on the NIHB DBL

| DIN | LANCET |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 97799817 | Accu-Chek Multiclix Lancets |
| 97799466 | Bg Star Lancets |
| 97799541 | Ez Health Oracle Lancets |
| 97799766 | Itest Safety Lancets, 28G |
| 97799767 | Itest Ultra-Thin Lancets, 33G |
| 97799388 | Medi+Sure Soft 30G Twist Lancet |
| 97799389 | Medi+Sure Soft 33G Twist Lancet |
| 97799810 | Mpd Thin Lancet (100) |
| 97799811 | Mpd Thin Lancet (200) |
| 97799807 | Mpd Ultra Thin Lancet (100) |
| 97799808 | Mpd Ultra Thin Lancet (200) |
| 97799431 | One Touch Delica Lancet 30G |
| 97799501 | Onetouch Delica Lancet 33G |
| 97799945 | Accu-Chek Softclix Lancets |
| 97799348 | Ultilet Classic Lancets |
| 97799494 | Accu-Chek Fastclix Lancet 102 |
| 97799495 | Accu-Chek Fastclix Lancet 204 |
| 97799690 | Bd Ultrafine 33G Lancets |
| 97799825 | Fingerstix Lancets |
| 97799826 | Freestyle Lancets |
| 97799918 | Microlet Lancets |
| 97799804 | Monolet (Monoject) 21G |
| 97799801 | Monolet Thin (Monoject) 28G |
| 97799970 | Onetouch Ultrasoft Lancets |
| 97799946 | Accu-Chek Softclix Lancets |

Pseudo DINs No Longer Used by NIHB

| DIN | LANCET |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 00000165 | Soft Clix Lancets |
| 00900141 | Ultra-Fine II |
| 00900834 | Fingerstix |
| 00901359 | One Touch Ultra Soft |
| 00902144 | Softclix Select |
| 00904062 | Monolet Original Lancets |
| 00905917 | Soft Touch |
| 00906190 | Medisense |
| 00906239 | Microlet |
| 00908533 | Medisense Lancets |
| 00908576 | Lifescan Lancets |
| 00961264 | Lifescan Lancets |
| 00961310 | Monolet Lancets |
| 00962546 | Softclix Lancets |
| 00965561 | One Touch Delica 33G |
| 00977051 | Unilet Comfort Touch |
| 00977373 | Softclix Select |
| 00977493 | Microlet |
| 00977543 | Monolet Original |
| 00977659 | Ultra-Fine II |
| 00977839 | Freestyle |
| 00977896 | Unilet Comfort Touch |
| 00984167 | Unilet Comfort Touch |
| 00995965 | Fingerstix |
| 99401055 | Monolet Thin |
| 99401063 | Freestyle |
| 99401068 | Bd Latitude |
| 99729459 | Monoject Lancets |
| 99841445 | Autoclix Lancets 200 |

Indian Status Card, NIHB Client Identification and Card Renewal Date

For registered First Nations clients, their Indian status registration number also serves as their NIHB client identification number, and is required on all claims and prior approvals. It is recommended that First Nations clients present their Indian status card (either a paper-laminate Certificate of Indian Status or a Secure Certificate of Indian Status) at the point-of-service to ensure that client information is entered correctly and to protect against mistaken identity.

It is important for providers to be aware that a First Nations NIHB client should not be denied services because a renewal date on their Indian status card has passed. Service providers can still use the Indian status registration number to submit NIHB claims and eligibility will be verified by the claims processing system. Providers can also call the Express Scripts Canada call centre to verify client eligibility with NIHB.

Please note that Inuit clients do not have Indian status cards and are assigned an **N number** (a client identification number used by the NIHB Program). For eligible Inuit from the Northwest Territories or Nunavut, their N number is linked to their territorial health card, so their health card number can be used to submit claims. Inuit clients who do not have a territorial health card should provide photo identification, and will also need to provide their NIHB N number.

REMINDERS

Prior Approval

Prior approval is required for NIHB coverage of specific items. However, prior approval does not include item cost. NIHB sets item cost maximums and any cost exceeding these maximums will require a separate approval.

Emergency Supply Policy

Providers are reminded that when a drug requiring a prior approval (PA) is needed on an emergency basis, and access to the NIHB DEC is not possible (e.g. statutory holidays and after hours of operation only), a pharmacist may dispense an initial course of treatment up to a four-day supply.

It is important that the pharmacist contact the NIHB DEC as soon as possible for an approval to be back-dated to cover the emergency supply. This approval number must be included when submitting the four-day emergency supply claim. Additional dispensing of the balance of the prescription must follow the usual PA process. If a PA is granted, the pharmacist is provided with a PA number and the details of the approved benefit by fax/mail.

A PA number starts with the letter E followed by seven (7) digits (e.g. E1234567). This number is entered electronically on the claims processing system. Providers are advised to retain the PA Confirmation Letter for billing purposes and/or to validate any discrepancies.

When submitting the claim, please include the date of service (dispense date) with the claim.

The PA number must be included on any subsequent claim submitted for the requested approved drug benefit. Claims submitted to the Program as emergency supply within the hours of operation of the NIHB DEC will be subject to audit.

If the item is eligible for auto approval, but did not meet the criteria, the provider may resubmit the rejected claim with applicable intervention code, DR. To initiate the PA process as soon as possible so that the NIHB DEC can review the request, please refer to the Pharmacy Claims Submission Kit for information on how to re-submit.

NIHB Pharmacy Claims Submission Kit

For information on the NIHB Program claims submissions, please download the current NIHB Pharmacy Claims Submission Kit from the Express Scripts Canada Provider Website at www.provider.express-scripts.ca/pharmacists.html. If you do not have Internet access and require a copy, please contact the Express Scripts Canada Provider Claims Processing Centre at 1-888-511-4666.

Prescriber ID Number / Prescriber ID Reference Number

As indicated in the Pharmacy Claims Submission Kit Section 3.1.4.1 – Electronic Claims Submission, providers must:

- Submit each prescription drug claim to Express Scripts Canada in the most current CPhA claims transmission standard for processing and payment, and include a valid prescriber ID as assigned by the respective provincial or territorial regulatory authorities.
- Submitted claims to the NIHB Program with the required correct prescriber ID reference for their respective province in accordance with the CPhA standard codes (unless otherwise specified by the provincial drug program).
- Ensure that the CPhA prescriber ID reference number or code can be referenced in the Canadian Pharmacists Association Pharmacy Claim Standard Version 03.143, section D60.03.

Note: You must submit your license number as provided and approved by the licensing body with the corresponding prescriber ID reference for all authorized claims.

Have you Recently Moved?

It is important that Express Scripts Canada has your current provider information. Without accurate information, you may not receive new and important information from NIHB and Express Scripts Canada regarding NIHB coverage, claims submission procedures, etc.

Please download the *Modification to Pharmacy Provider Information Form* from the NIHB Claims Services Provider Website at www.provider.express-scripts.ca/pharmacists.html and fax the completed signed form to Express Scripts Canada before submitting claims.

NIHB PROGRAM AND EXPRESS SCRIPTS CANADA CONTACT INFORMATION

EXPRESS SCRIPTS CANADA

Provider Claims Processing
Call Centre

Please have your Provider Number readily available

Inquiries and Password Resets
1-888-511-4666

Pharmacy Extended Hours

Monday to Friday:
6:30 a.m. to midnight (ET)
Saturday, Sunday and Statutory Holidays:
8 a.m. to midnight (ET)

MS&E Extended Hours

Monday to Friday:
6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. (ET)
Excluding Statutory Holidays

Pharmacy and MS&E Claims

Mail Pharmacy claims to:

Express Scripts Canada
NIHB Pharmacy Claims
P.O. Box 1353, Station K, Toronto, ON M4P 3J4

Mail MS&E claims to:

Express Scripts Canada
NIHB MS&E Claims
P.O. Box 1365, Station K, Toronto, ON M4P 3J4

Pharmacy/MS&E Provider Relations

Department &
Provider Agreements

Fax Completed

Pharmacy/MS&E Provider Agreements to:

Toll Free Fax No.: 1-855-622-0669

Other Correspondence

Mail to:

Express Scripts Canada
5770 Hurontario St., 10th Floor,
Mississauga, ON L5R 3G5

NIHB Forms

Download from the

NIHB Claims Services Provider Website or contact
the Provider Claims Processing Call Centre

www.provider.express-scripts.ca

NIHB PROGRAM

PHARMACY BENEFITS

Drug Exception Centre (DEC)

PRIOR APPROVALS

Pharmacy Benefits

1-800-580-0950 (English)
1-800-281-5027 (French)
Fax No.: 1-877-789-4379

Health Canada Regional Offices

PRIOR APPROVALS

MS&E Benefits

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Alberta | 1-800-232-7301 |
| Atlantic | 1-800-565-3294 |
| Manitoba | 1-800-665-8507 |
| Northwest Territories/Nunavut | 1-888-332-9222 |
| Ontario | 1-800-881-3921 |
| Quebec | 1-877-483-1575 |
| Saskatchewan | 1-866-885-3933 |
| Yukon | 1-866-362-6717 |

INQUIRIES

Pharmacy/MS&E Benefits

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Alberta | 1-780-495-2694 |
| | 1-800-232-7301 |
| Atlantic | 1-902-426-2656 |
| | 1-800-565-3294 |
| Manitoba | 1-800-665-8507 |
| Northwest Territories/Nunavut | 1-888-332-9222 |
| Ontario | 1-800-881-3921 |
| Quebec | 1-877-483-1575 |
| | 1-514-283-1575 |
| Saskatchewan | 1-306-780-8294 |
| | 1-866-885-3933 |
| Yukon | 1-866-362-6717 |

British Columbia First Nations Health Authority

PRIOR APPROVALS

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| British Columbia | 1-888-299-9222 |
|------------------|----------------|

INQUIRIES

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| British Columbia | 1-604-666-3331 |
| | 1-800-317-7878 |