

January 2017

NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM: CHANGE IN COVERAGE OF HIGHER STRENGTH LONG-ACTING OPIOIDS IN ONTARIO REGION

Further to the November 2016 communication, the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program would like to confirm that effective January 31, 2017 higher strength long-acting (LA) opioid products for non-palliative clients in Ontario will no longer be covered. For ease of reference, information previously communicated is also repeated in the following message. This decision aligns with the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary Update and promotes the safer use of opioids. The change affects the following opioids:

- long-acting morphine 200mg tablets/capsules
- long-acting hydromorphone 24mg and 30mg capsules
- fentanyl 75mcg/hr and 100mcg/hr patches

Please note that clients who previously received approval on a case-by-case basis for prescriptions of OxyNeo 60mg and 80mg tablets will no longer be able to have these strengths covered by the Program as of January 31, 2017. Exceptions may be made for palliative clients.

The table below lists the drugs that will no longer be covered* by the NIHB Program in Ontario:

DRUG NAME	DIN	MANUFACTURER
MS Contin 200 mg SR Tab	02014327	Purdue Pharma
Teva-morphine SR 200 mg	02302802	Teva Canada Ltd.
M-Eslon 200 mg ER Cap	02177757	Ethypharm Inc.
Hydromorph Contin 24 mg	02125382	Purdue Pharma
Hydromorph Contin 30 mg	02125390	Purdue Pharma
Duragesic transdermal patch 75mcg	02275848	Janssen Inc.
Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02395681	Pro Doc Limitee
Apo-Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02314657	Apotex Inc.
Co Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02386887	Cobalt
Mylan-Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02396734	Mylan
PMS-Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02341409	Pharmascience Inc.
Ran-Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02330148	Ranbaxy Canada Inc.
Sandoz Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02327155	Sandoz Canada Inc.
Teva-Fentanyl transdermal patch 75 mcg	02282976	Teva Canada Ltd.
Duragesic transdermal patch 100mcg	02275856	Janssen Inc.
Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02395703	Pro Doc Ltée
Apo-Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02314665	Apotex Inc.
Co Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02386895	Cobalt
Mylan-Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02396742	Mylan
PMS-Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02341417	Pharmascience Inc.
Ran-Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02330156	Ranbaxy Canada Inc.
Sandoz Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02327163	Sandoz Canada Inc.
Teva-Fentanyl transdermal patch 100 mcg	02282984	Teva Canada Ltd.

*Palliative clients will continue to be able to access higher strength drugs when necessary.

Pharmacy providers should ensure that clients taking these products get their prescriptions adjusted and obtain prior approval as necessary for new strengths accordingly prior to the implementation date.

For clarification or questions regarding this change, please call the Drug Exception Centre at 1-800-580-0950.