

## For our Pharmacy Providers

Fall 2003

### NEWS AND VIEWS

Welcome to the fall 2003 edition of the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) quarterly newsletter. First Canadian Health (FCH) is now in its fifth year of operations as the claims processor for the NIHB Program of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) of Health Canada.

Again, FCH would like to thank you for your support as you continue to provide quality health services to First Nations and Inuit clients of the NIHB Program.

As always, your comments and questions are welcome. Please contact the FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre Representatives at **1-888-511-4666**, or send your correspondence to:

FCH Provider Relations  
3080 Yonge Street, Suite 3002  
Toronto, ON M4N 3N1

99400803, 99400804, 99400805, 99400806,  
99400809, 99400810, 99400811, 99400812,  
99400813, 99400814, 99400816, 99400817,  
99400818, 99400819, 99400820, 99400821,  
99400822

There have been changes to the following codes:

99400004, 99400045, 99400046, 99400049,  
99400050, 99400051, 99400052, 99400103,  
99400105, 99400107, 99400108, 99400109,  
99400110, 99400111, 99400113, 99400119,  
99400120, 99400121, 99400122, 99400128,  
99400129, 99400130, 99400131, 99400136,  
99400137, 99400138, 99400139, 99400160,  
99400161, 99400177, 99400181, 99400182,  
99400185, 99400206, 99400215, 99400236,  
99400241, 99400242, 99400260, 99400261,  
99400266, 99400267, 99400310, 99400318,  
99400320, 99400326, 99400352, 99400354,  
99400355, 99400356, 99400362, 99400365,  
99400366, 99400371, 99400399, 99400404,  
99400405, 99400407, 99400409, 99400410,  
99400411, 99400414, 99400415, 99400422,  
99400432, 99400436, 99400437, 99400440,  
99400441, 99400446, 99400448, 99400449,  
99400450, 99400451, 99400453, 99400454,  
99400456, 99400461, 99400462, 99400463,  
99400546, 99400547, 99400568, 99400630,  
99400648, 99400698, 99400699, 99400727,  
99400730, 99400731, 99400732, 99400733,  
99400734, 99400735, 99400736, 99400740,  
99400741, 99400742, 99400743, 99400744,  
99400745, 99400746, 99400749, 99400750,  
99400751, 99400752, 99400753, 99400758,  
99400761, 99400762, 99400783, 99400784

### FALL 2003 NIHB DRUG BENEFIT LIST UPDATE

Please find attached the fall 2003 updates, which list all changes to the April 1, 2003 NIHB Drug Benefit List (DBL). These updates include the addition/replacement of DINs, limited use benefits, drugs removed from the Canadian market and drugs discontinued by the manufacturer effective October 1, 2003.

These updates are reflected in the most recent electronic version of the NIHB DBL. Please refer to the website at the following URL address:

[www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb/nihb/pharmacy](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb/nihb/pharmacy)

### CHANGES TO THE NIHB MS&E BENEFIT LIST

The NIHB Program has updated the NIHB MS&E Benefit List and the Pharmacy/MS&E Provider Information Kit (PPIK). New codes have been created, some existing codes have been renamed and obsolete codes have been deleted. Certain benefit codes have had changes to the frequency and/or prior approval requirements.

These changes take effect on **November 1, 2003**. It is essential that all NIHB pharmacy providers download an up-to-date version of the NIHB PPIK from the NIHB website (see URL address at the end of this article) in order to facilitate proper billing. The changes are highlighted in the updated Section 10 of the NIHB PPIK.

The following are new codes:

99400398, 99400800, 99400801, 99400802,

Additional information regarding the funding of the Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) unit and reminders to providers for orthotic/prosthetic, custom-made footwear and audiology are available in the September 2003 NIHB MS&E Bulletin.

An updated version of the NIHB PPIK will be available in mid-October 2003 on the Health Canada website at the following URL address:

[www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb-dgspni/fnihb/nihb](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb-dgspni/fnihb/nihb)

Replace your entire NIHB PPIK with the updated version. If you do not have Internet access, contact the FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre at **1-888-511-4666**.

## REMINDER TO PROVIDERS

The date for consent has been changed to March 1, 2004. The CPhA code HH and the W82 warning message (CLIENT HAS NOT PROVIDED CONSENT) will continue to appear for each paid claim line as a reminder that the client has not provided consent. Continue to provide services as usual during this period.

For additional information on the consent initiative, providers must contact the NIHB Consent Information Centre at **1-888-751-5011**.

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## COORDINATION OF BENEFITS WITH ONTARIO DRUG BENEFIT LIMITED USE DRUG PRODUCTS (FOR ONTARIO PHARMACIES ONLY)

Ontario pharmacists must pursue payment through ODB prior to billing the NIHB Program for drugs listed on the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Limited Use (LU) Drug Products list. It may be necessary to contact the prescriber to have the prescription written on the ODB LU prescription form. Results of the ODB limited use request must be documented and kept on file in the NIHB client's profile for review during on-site audit.

Claims for items on the ODB list (including the limited use section) not coordinated with ODB prior to billing the NIHB Program will now be rejected with the message **R08 (PATIENT OVER 65 – SUBMIT CLAIM TO ONT DRUG BENEFIT)**.

For further information, refer to Section 4 of the NIHB Pharmacy/MS&E Provider Information Kit, which explains the requirements for coordination of benefits.

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## METHADONE FOR OPIOID DEPENDENCY, PSEUDO-DIN 00908835

Effective October 1, 2003, a new policy will be put in place for the submission and the reimbursement of methadone used for the **treatment of addictions for all provinces and territories, excluding Quebec**.

Methadone claims must be submitted by using the **pseudo-DIN 00908835**. Claims submitted with another pseudo-DIN will be subject to reclaim.

The provider **will no longer have to contact the National Drug Exception Centre to obtain a special authorization**, before submitting claims for methadone.

Claims must be submitted **once a week (every seven days) at the end of the week**. In Ontario, due to legislation, claims will continue to be submitted daily.

**Cost of the Drug:** The drug cost submitted will be the actual acquisition cost (AAC). The drug cost submitted will reflect the **number of milligrams dispensed** as opposed to the volume dispensed. Where applicable, the mark-up (MU) submitted will be in accordance with the NIHB Program Pharmacy Pricing Guidelines defined by region.

**Dispensing Fee (DF):** The DF, submitted at the end of the week, will be a **weekly** fee calculated as follows: Day one: 1.5 times the current DF + an **“interaction fee”** of \$3.50. From day 2 to day 7, only the \$3.50 interaction fee will be reimbursed.

The interaction fee will be reimbursed for each dose that the pharmacist witnesses. For doses that the patient carries home, the interaction fee shall not be claimed.

In summary, the total claim submitted weekly (every seven days) will be the total of the drug cost + the MU (where applicable) + DF. In Ontario, the total weekly amount will be divided by seven and submitted daily.

**Note:** For treatment using methadone for other indications, please refer to the NIHB Drug Bulletin dated January 2002.

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## VALID CLIENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER FOR RECOGNIZED INUIT

Recognized Inuit accessing NIHB benefits anywhere in Canada can use their NWT or Nunavut health care number as a valid client identification number.

For further information, please refer to Section 1.3 of the NIHB Pharmacy/MS&E Provider Information Kit (PPIK).

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## COPIES OF COMMUNICATION MATERIALS

Providers are reminded that claim submission and audit requirements are outlined in the NIHB Pharmacy/MS&E Provider Information Kit (PPIK) as well as the quarterly NIHB Pharmacy Newsletter. It is important that your office retains the most current documentation to ensure compliance with the audit process.

Providers may obtain an up-to-date provider kit and back issues of newsletters through the NIHB website at:

**[www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb-dgspni/fnihb/nihb](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fnihb-dgspni/fnihb/nihb)**

If you do not have Internet access, contact the FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre at **1-888-511-4666**.

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## CLIENT CALLS

Pharmacy providers are requested to direct client inquiries to the appropriate FNIHB Regional Office. Please refer to the Directory insert in the pocket of your NIHB Pharmacy/MS&E Provider Information Kit (PPIK) for the telephone number and address of each FNIHB Regional Office.

The FCH NIHB Toll-Free Inquiry Centre provides services to NIHB providers only.

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## QUEBEC MS&E NEW FAX NUMBER

The FNIHB Quebec Regional Office has a new fax number for all MS&E prior approval requests. The new fax number is **(514) 283-SSNA (7762)**.

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