

### 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
<b>Nasal Sprays</b>	
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
<b>Oral medications</b>	
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
<b>Eye Drops</b>	
02230621, 02009277	cromolyn Sodium
00893560	Iodoxamide
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

## Audit Correspondence and Privacy

Express Scripts Canada administers the Health Information and Claims Processing Services (HICPS) for pharmacy benefits covered through the NIHB Program. The responsibility encompasses all aspects of pharmacy benefits processing and payment of claims and extends to verification, audit and recovery where deemed appropriate.

Express Scripts Canada adheres to all applicable privacy laws. Express Scripts Canada's privacy policy is based on Canada's privacy legislation including the federal Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) and the Privacy Act.

The Pharmacy audit process is a confidential process between Express Scripts Canada and the provider. Express Scripts Canada respects and preserves patient and provider confidentiality throughout the process and will only disclose information to the provider being audited. However, Express Scripts Canada is permitted to release such information to the head office of the pharmacy where there is a contract in place between the pharmacy's head office and Express Scripts Canada.

The audit program supports your right to privacy and continues to run on sound privacy-principles.

## 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 seven-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 seven-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](http://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.
- Submit 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.

## Unit Cost and Package Size

Unit cost must be based on appropriate package size for quantities dispensed in pharmacies. This means that costs submitted by pharmacy providers must correspond to the actual cost for the package size used in dispensing and not the costs relative to a package size that is more expensive. Claims where pharmacy providers break packaging to charge for quantities between two (2) package sizes will be calculated on the basis of the lesser unit cost.

## Rewards and Incentives

Providers are reminded about the provisions within the Express Scripts Canada Provider Agreement and NIHB Pharmacy Claims Submission Kit regarding rewards and incentives associated with claims submitted to the NIHB Program. Section 4.4.6 of the NIHB Pharmacy Claims Submission Kit states that an NIHB client shall not benefit directly or indirectly from special promotions or incentives including coupons, discounts, points or rebates in the form of cash, and/or goods that may be offered by pharmacy providers. To the extent permitted by applicable law, the Program shall receive the benefits of these promotions. As a result, the amount claimed through the Program must be the residual amount after application of the promotion.

## 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](http://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., 10<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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