

MEMO

March 27, 2020

DRUG PROGRAMS CO-PAY FOR 30 DAY DISPENSE OF 90 DAY MAINTENANCE MEDICATIONS

PEI Pharmacare have been working for the past week to develop a solution to mitigate co-pays for clients in drug programs, given the recommendation of maximum 30 day dispensing to help protect Canada's supply of medication. The announcement made by Government on March 21, 2020 regarding maximum 30 day dispensing identified that no Pharmacare client would have to pay more than they previously had for their eligible medications.

In response to this, clients currently being dispensed medications eligible as a 90 day supply (marked as maintenance medications in the Formulary) will now see their drug program co-pay reduced by one-third.

Patients currently being dispensed a medication eligible as a 30 day supply (marked as regular medications) will continue to pay the usual drug program co-pay. Examples of affected co-pays are below.

Generic Drug Program

Usual co-pay for 90 day dispense = \$19.95

New co-pay for 30 day dispense = \$6.65

Co-pay for 30 day dispense of Special Authorization medication remains at \$19.95

Seniors Drug Program

Usual co-pay toward drug cost = max. \$8.25 and usual co-pay toward pharmacy fee = \$7.69, resulting in a Senior co-pay of up to \$15.94.

New co-pay toward drug cost for 90 day maintenance medication = max. \$2.75 and new co-pay toward pharmacy fee = \$2.56, resulting in a Senior copay of up to \$5.31.

Diabetes Drug Program

Usual co-pay for 90 day maintenance oral medication = \$11.00

New co-pay for 30 day dispense of maintenance oral medication = \$3.66

Family Health Benefit Program

Usual co-pay = pharmacy fee to max. \$12.36

New co-pay for 30 day dispense of a 90 day maintenance medication = one-third pharmacy fee to max. \$4.12

Please Note

These changes will be effective March 28, 2020.

Dispenses need to be entered as a 30 day supply. Dispenses identified with a day supply greater than 30 day will be reduced.

Patients wishing to be reimbursed for paid claims on a 30 day dispense of a 90 day maintenance drug made on March 21, 2020 or later can submit their official prescription receipt(s) to PEI Pharmacare at:

PEI Pharmacare
Attn: Manual claims
16 Fitzroy St.
Sullivan Building
Charlottetown, PE
C1A 7N8

If a pharmacy chooses to do so, a claim made on March 21, 2020 or later for a 90 day maintenance medication dispensed as 30 day could be reversed and re-billed to Pharmacare.

Thank you for all of your efforts and your continued assistance with PEI Pharmacare clients.

PEI Pharmacare