

Strep Pharyngitis – Assessment & Prescribing

December 2025



▶ Introductions

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Agenda

- ▶ Overview
 - ▶ Grant agreement
 - ▶ Reimbursement model
 - ▶ Ordering supplies
 - ▶ Resources
 - ▶ Launch
- ▶ Next steps
- ▶ Questions
- ▶ FAQs

Overview



Grant agreement

- ▶ The DHW grant funding is available to participating pharmacies and covers the following expenses

Item	Description
Strep A testing equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One machine/instrument.
Swabs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One box of swabs (i.e. Test kit)• One box of control swabs (i.e. Control Test Kit)
Start up costs (up to \$1000 per participating pharmacy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be used to support administrative or operational start-up costs such as equipment installation, staff education , workflow or workspace preparation, workspace refurbishment, procurement of additional patient booking technologies.

Reimbursement model

Assessment Type	PDIN	Description	Value
Pharyngitis No Swab	90109815	Used when the clinical assessment does not warrant Strep testing.	\$25
Pharyngitis with Swab (Positive Result)	90109268	Used when a throat swab is performed and the result is positive for Strep.	\$25 + swab (incl 10% mark-up)
Pharyngitis with Swab (Negative Result)	90109816	Used when a throat swab is performed and the result is negative for Strep.	\$25 + swab (incl 10% mark-up)

Days' Supply=1

Please note that the PDIN 93899794 ("Assessment- Sore Throat") will be retired and replaced by these new PDINs.

Pharmacists may bill **one pharyngitis assessment per patient per day**.

Ordering Supplies

- ▶ The ID NOW™ Molecular Point-of-Care Strep A 2 assay test kits can be ordered through the following wholesalers:
 - ▶ **McKesson**
Item Number: 195591
 - ▶ **Matrix**
Item Number: 21528574

Resources

- ▶ Resources
 - ▶ Department of Health and Wellness Resource Package (available on the [SRC webpage](#)).
- ▶ Professional development
 - ▶ Optional Training: A Community Pharmacists Guide to Assessing and Treating Pharyngitis (PANS)
 - ▶ PEICP Practice Directives

Launch

- ▶ Soft launch (December 2025)
 - ▶ Ease into services, allow participating pharmacies to operationalize
 - ▶ No public promotion
- ▶ Public awareness (January 2026)
 - ▶ Pharmacy Plus announcement
 - ▶ Updated webpage with participating locations



Next steps



Upcoming Months: Lab

- ▶ Legislation updated to support pharmacist ordering and interpreting labs.
- ▶ Reminders
 - The pharmacist is the most responsible provider when ordering labs
 - Ordering labs is only for monitoring and managing drug therapy
- ▶ What we heard:
 - Communication to primary care providers for affiliated patients supports efficient use of lab resources

Upcoming Months: Lab

- ▶ Implementation Requirements:
 - Health System Policy Updates
 - Provider Registration (Lab) inclusive of Critical Result Pathway (24/7/365)
 - Provider Notification Pathway
 - MyHealthPEI Provider Portal Access
 - Reimbursement Guidelines and Pathway (alignment with Practice Directives)

Questions



FAQs

(insert presenters name)



- ▶ **Who is eligible for reimbursement of strep testing in community pharmacies?**

Islanders are eligible for the program if they:

- ▶ Have a valid PEI Health Card; and
- ▶ Have a demonstrated clinical need

Services will not be reimbursed for people who do not have an active PEI health card.

- ▶ **Which strep testing is eligible for reimbursement:**

Approved Molecular Strep A testing instruments are eligible. Approved Molecular Strep A testing instruments include:

- ▶ Abbott ID NOW™ Molecular Point-of-Care Strep A

- ▶ Are all pharmacies equipped to perform point-of-care strep testing?

No. Only community pharmacies that have procured an approved testing machine are eligible for reimbursement. Providers can refer patients to the [list of participating pharmacies](#). If your pharmacy has procured an approved testing machine and is not on the list of participating community pharmacies, please contact PEI Pharmacare.

- ▶ **How are test results documented and shared?** Pharmacists must document the assessment, test results, and management plan in the patient's pharmacy record. Appropriate documentation must be completed when submitting claims to Pharmacare.

Pharmacists must comply with practice standards and communicate results "as soon as is reasonably possible to other health professionals caring for the patient, as appropriate."

As with other Pharmacy Plus assessments, information regarding which assessment has been reimbursed is viewable on the Drug Information System. For pharyngitis, this information includes whether a patient was tested for Strep A and the results of the test.