



Pharmacist Assessment of Common Ailments & Renewal of Prescriptions - Pharmacy Guide

Overview & Summary

To improve access to community-based healthcare services, including assessments for prescription renewals and common ailments, the Government of PEI launched **Pharmacy Plus PEI** in Fall 2022. Following the successful completion of the 12-month pilot phase, the program is now fully implemented, and pharmacies across the province are actively providing these clinical services.

Pharmacies may incorporate these services within their existing operations or offer them through a dedicated clinic model (e.g., pharmacist walk-in clinic).

Pharmacists must continue to follow the PEI College of Pharmacy (PEICP) Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics, Practice Directive – Prescribing of Drugs by Pharmacists, and all applicable regulations, guidelines, and best practice recommendations when delivering these services.

The program is now an established part of PEI's healthcare system, supporting expanded access and improved patient care across the Island.





Pharmacy Services

Assessment of Common Ailments by a Pharmacist

As per the **Regulated Health Professions Act Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Regulations, Section 28**, pharmacists are authorized to assess and prescribe for certain minor ailments (see Appendix A).

The Pharmacy Plus PEI program provides reimbursement to pharmacists for completing these services as part of routine practice.

Description	Value	PDIN
Assessment of common ailments by pharmacist	\$25/assessment	A unique PDIN has been established for each type of common ailment (refer to Appendix B)

Key points:

- Reimbursement applies to clinical consultations and assessments for common ailments provided by a pharmacist in a PEI pharmacy.
- Assessments should be completed in person when physical evaluation is required.
- Virtual consultations are permitted when appropriate, provided pharmacists comply with the Health Information Act and regulations, using approved secure platforms for communication, storage, and transmission of personal health information.
- Each assessment must include a full consultation, review of the patient's medication profile and health history, and completion of supporting documentation. These are not equivalent to traditional OTC counseling.
- The assessment does not need to result in the pharmacist prescribing a prescription medication (Schedule I) to be eligible for reimbursement.
- The pharmacist assessment fee is separate from the professional services fee (aka dispensing fee) and must be claimed separately to Pharmacare for reimbursement, as applicable.
- Unique PseudoDINs (PDINs or PINs) are used for each common ailment assessment to support tracking and monitoring of program utilization.



Assessment and Renewal of Prescriptions by a Pharmacist (Continued Care)

Description	Value	PDIN
Assessment and renewal of prescriptions by a pharmacist	\$20/assessment	PDIN: 93899820 (refer to Appendix B)

Key points:

- Community Pharmacists are to complete a review of the entire patient medication profile, including over-the-counter medications, natural products, and supplements, and assess for renewal of all eligible prescription medications (Schedule 1) at the same time, as appropriate.
- Pharmacists are to complete the assessment and renewal of prescriptions as per PEI College of Pharmacy standards of practice.
- Assessments should be completed in person with the patient and pharmacist whenever the assessment of physical factors is required.
- If circumstances permit a virtual consult, the pharmacist must follow the Health Information Act and regulations and utilize approved devices and platforms to ensure secure communication between the pharmacist and patient. Access, storage, and transmission of personal health information must abide by all Regulations and Acts as required
- A maximum of 6 (six) assessments for prescription renewal by a pharmacist per patient are eligible for reimbursement in a 365-day period.
- Assessments are not restricted to a single pharmacy or pharmacist and may be completed at different locations throughout the year. Pharmacists must check the Drug Information System (DIS) to confirm previous assessments and ensure reimbursement eligibility.
- A minimum of 1 (one) prescription medication (Schedule 1) must be filled at the time of the assessment for the assessment to be eligible for reimbursement.
- The pharmacist assessment fee is separate from the professional services fee (aka dispensing fee) and must be claimed separately to Pharmacare for reimbursement, as applicable.
- Reimbursement for cost of medications, and professional services fees (aka dispensing fees), as applicable, are not included as a part of this program.
- Assessment and renewal for vaccines are not included in this program.



Eligibility

All Island residents with an active PEI Health Number, excluding individuals residing in long-term care homes, are eligible to receive these services with reimbursement under the Pharmacy Plus PEI program.

Pharmacists may provide these services to individuals without an active PEI Health Number; however, these assessments are **not eligible for reimbursement** under the program.

Only assessments completed by pharmacists working in community pharmacies within Prince Edward Island qualify for reimbursement. The Government of PEI does not reimburse these or similar services provided by pharmacies outside the province.

Pharmacists delivering these services must be in good standing with the PEI College of Pharmacy and have completed any required training and hold appropriate practice certificates, as applicable.

Reimbursement

Clinical services under this program must be billed to Pharmacare through the existing pharmacy software system using the designated PDINs (see Appendix B). Reporting and payment will follow the standard Pharmacare reimbursement process. Manual claims will not be accepted.

Please note: This program does not include reimbursement for medications, prescriptions, or professional service fees (dispensing fees).

Quality Assurance

When submitting claims through the PEI Pharmacare system, pharmacists and pharmacies are responsible for ensuring that each assessment meets the program's eligibility criteria. **Paper or manual claims will not be accepted.**

If a claim is later determined to be ineligible, the pharmacy will be required to return any reimbursement received to Pharmacare.

Minimum Documentation Requirements

Pharmacare requires that all claims for Pharmacy Plus PEI services include the appropriate supporting documentation. Please refer to **Appendix C: Documentation Requirements** for a detailed list of the information that must be submitted.



Appendix A - Regulated Health Professions Act Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Regulations, Schedule C, Common Ailments

Under the **Regulated Health Professions Act Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Regulations, Section 17¹**, pharmacists are authorized to assess and prescribe for the following common ailments:

- (a) allergic rhinitis;
- (b) calluses or corns;
- (c) contact allergic dermatitis (allergic skin rash);
- (d) cough;
- (d.1) COVID-19;
- (e) dandruff;
- (f) dysmenorrhea (pre-menstrual and menstrual pain);
- (g) dyspepsia (indigestion);
- (h) emergency contraception;
- (i) fungal infections of the skin;
- (j) gastro-esophageal reflux disease (heartburn);
- (k) hemorrhoids;
- (l) herpes simplex (cold sores);
- (l.1) herpes zoster;
- (l.2) impetigo;
- (m) mild acne;
- (n) mild headache;
- (o) mild to moderate eczema;
- (p) mild urticaria (hives, bug bites and stings);
- (q) minor joint pain;
- (r) minor muscle pain;
- (s) minor sleep disorders;
- (t) nasal congestion;
- (u) nausea;
- (v) nicotine dependence;
- (w) non-infectious diarrhea;
- (x) oral fungal infection (thrush);
- (y) oral ulcers (canker sores);
- (z) pharyngitis (sore throat);
- (z.1) streptococcal pharyngitis (strep throat);
- (aa) threadworms or pinworms;
- (aa.1) uncomplicated cystitis (urinary tract infection);
- (bb) vaginal candidiasis (yeast infection);
- (cc) warts (excluding facial and genital warts);
- (dd) xerophthalmia (dry eyes).

¹ [Regulated Health Professions Act Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Regulations](#)



Appendix B: Pharmacy Plus PEI Pharmacare Processing Guide

Table 1: Pharmacare Billing Guide

Field	Information Required
Client ID	PEI Provincial Healthcare Number
Patient Name	Patient Name
Prescriber	Pharmacist Name
Prescriber ID	Pharmacist License Number
Plan/ Program Code	AUTO
Drug Cost	Fee as listed in Table 3
Mark-up	\$0 (none)
Professional Fee	\$0 (none)
Compounding Fee	\$0 (none)
Days Supply	1
Quantity	1

Table 2: Pharyngitis with Swab Billing Guide

Field	Information Required
Client ID	PEI Provincial Healthcare Number
Patient Name	Patient Name
Prescriber	Pharmacist Name
Prescriber ID	Pharmacist License Number
Plan/ Program Code	AUTO
Drug Cost	\$28.33
Mark-up	\$2.83
Professional Fee	\$25
Compounding Fee	\$0 (none)
Days Supply	1
Quantity	1

Billing Parameters & Limitations

- Assessment - Assessment and Prescription Renewal (PDIN 93899820) has a maximum of six (6) transactions per year, no more than one transaction in the same day
- Urinary Tract Infections (UTI) PDINs require age and gender to meet criteria when processing to Pharmacare. There is a maximum of two (2) transaction per year for the two PDINs combined.
- Assessment (all PDINs) – limit to one claim per type of assessment (per PDIN) in the same day
- COVID-19 Assessment - After **June 1, 2024** order set must be completed if prescribing Paxlovid in order to demonstrate compliance with the special authorization criteria.



Table 3 - PseudoDIN (PDIN) Summary

Common Ailment/Service Name	Common Ailment/Service Description	Pharmacare PDIN	Fee
Assessment - Assessment and Prescription Renewal	Assessment and Renewal of Prescriptions by a Pharmacist (Continued Care)	93899820	\$20
Assessment - Allergic Rhinitis	allergic rhinitis	93899821	\$25
Assessment - Calluses or Corns	calluses or corns	93899823	\$25
Assessment - Allergic Dermatitis	contact allergic dermatitis (allergic skin rash)	93899822	\$25
Assessment - Cough	cough assessment	93899817	\$25
Assessment – COVID-19	COVID-19 assessment for medication therapy	93899792	\$25
Assessment - Dandruff	dandruff assessment	93899816	\$25
Assessment - Dysmenorrhea	dysmenorrhea (pre-menstrual and menstrual pain)	93899812	\$25
Assessment - Dyspepsia	dyspepsia (indigestion)	93899811	\$25
Assessment - Emergency Contraception	emergency contraception	93899810	\$25
Assessment - Fungal Skin Infections	fungal infections of the skin	93899809	\$25
Assessment - GERD (Heartburn)	gastro-esophageal reflux disease (heartburn)	93899808	\$25
Assessment - Hemorrhoids	hemorrhoids	93899807	\$25
Assessment - Cold Sores	herpes simplex	93899818	\$25
Assessment - Mild Acne	mild acne assessment	93899806	\$25
Assessment - Mild Headache	mild headache	93899805	\$25
Assessment - Mild to Moderate Eczema	mild to moderate eczema	93899804	\$25
Assessment - Mild Urticaria	mild urticaria (hives, bug bites and stings)	93899803	\$25
Assessment - Minor Joint Pain	minor joint pain	93899802	\$25
Assessment - Minor Muscle Pain	minor muscle pain	93899801	\$25
Assessment - Minor Sleep Disorders	minor sleep disorders	93899800	\$25
Assessment - Nasal Congestion	nasal congestion	93899799	\$25
Assessment - Nausea	nausea assessment	93899798	\$25
Assessment - Nicotine Dependence	nicotine dependence	93899797	\$25
Follow-up Nicotine Dependence	Nicotine dependence	93899724	\$25
Assessment - Diarrhea (Non Infectious)	non-infectious diarrhea	93899815	\$25
Assessment - Oral Thrush	oral fungal infection (thrush)	93899793	\$25
Assessment - Canker Sores	oral ulcers (canker sores)	93899819	\$25
Assessment - Threadworms or Pinworms	threadworms or pinworms	93899795	\$25
Assessment - Vaginal Yeast Infection	vaginal candidiasis (yeast infection)	93899796	\$25
Assessment – Uncomplicated Cystitis (Urinary tract infection) (Prescription)	uncomplicated cystitis (Urinary tract infection) resulting in a prescription	93899857	\$25
Assessment – Uncomplicated Cystitis (Urinary tract infection) (No prescription)	uncomplicated cystitis (Urinary tract infection) not resulting in a prescription	93899852	\$25



Assessment - Warts	warts (excluding facial and genital warts)	93899814	\$25
Assessment - Dry Eyes	xerophthalmia (dry eyes)	93899813	\$25
Assessment – Shingles	Shingles	93899741	\$25
Assessment – Impetigo	Impetigo	93899742	\$25
Assessment – Contraception	Contraception	93899743	\$25
Assessment - Pharyngitis with Swab Positive	Pharyngitis	90109268	\$25 (plus swab cost + 10% markup)
Assessment – Pharyngitis with Swab Negative	Pharyngitis	90109816	\$25 (plus swab cost + 10% markup)
Assessment – Pharyngitis No Swab	Pharyngitis	90109815	\$25

Please note that, as of December 4th, 2025, the **PDIN 93899794 (“Assessment- Sore Throat”)** will be retired and replaced by the new pharyngitis PDINs.

Appendix C: Minimum Documentation Requirements

The following documentation requirements align with the practice directive *Prescribing of Drugs by Pharmacists* in Appendix B from the PEI College of Pharmacy². The following information related to Pharmacy Plus prescribing must be documented, filed, and retained in the pharmacy's records:

1. General Patient Information
 - Name
 - Contact information
 - Date of birth
 - Gender
 - Weight and height (if applicable)
 - Any known contraindications or allergies/intolerances to drugs, excipients, or other substances related to drug therapy
 - Medical conditions
 - Pregnancy and lactation status (if applicable)
 - Other relevant information
2. Prescribing Details
 - Date of prescribing decision
 - Presenting health condition or drug-related problem, including symptoms, signs, history, and any treatment
 - Patient assessment details/findings
 - Description of prescribing decision, rationale, and supporting information/documents (e.g., lab reports, previous prescription labels, written documentation of diagnosis from a healthcare professional)
 - Instructions provided to the patient
 - Follow-up plan details to allow other healthcare professionals or caregivers to monitor progress
 - Name of prescribing pharmacist
 - Information to allow other pharmacy staff to provide continuity of care
 - Date and method of notifying other healthcare professionals (if applicable)
 - Reference to the original prescription and prescriber name/contact information, when applicable
 - Patient informed and voluntary consent
 - Details of subsequent monitoring and follow-up regarding pharmacist prescribing (if applicable)
3. Prescription Details
 - Prescriptions must include all information required for a standard prescription in accordance with applicable regulations and professional standards.

² [Practice Directive: Prescribing of Drugs by Pharmacists](#)