National Prescription Drug Utilization Information System (NPDUIS)

Plan Information Document

July 1st, 2007



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Canadian Institute for Health Information 495 Richmond Road Suite 600 Ottawa, Ontario K2A 4H6

Telephone: 613-241-7860 Fax: 613-241-8120

www.cihi.ca

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Introduction

This document provides contextual information regarding public federal/provincial/territorial drug benefit plans/programs across Canada. Users can click on the links below to view:

Summary of Major Changes

Plan/Program Information by Category:

- Eligibility
- · Cost Sharing Mechanism
- Policy Related Information

Plan/Program Information by Category and by Jurisdiction:

Eligibility

British Columbia Alberta Saskatchewan Manitoba Ontario New Brunswick

Nova Scotia Prince Edward Island Newfoundland and Labrador

Yukon First Nations and Inuit Health Branch

•

Cost Sharing Mechanism

British Columbia Alberta Saskatchewan Manitoba Ontario New Brunswick

Nova Scotia Prince Edward Island Newfoundland and Labrador

Yukon First Nations and Inuit Health Branch

•

Policy Related Information

British Columbia Alberta Saskatchewan Manitoba Ontario New Brunswick

Nova Scotia Prince Edward Island Newfoundland and Labrador

Yukon First Nations and Inuit Health Branch

Summary of Major Changes

Saskatchewan

Effective July 1, 2007: New Seniors' Drug Plan for residents 65 years of age and older, seniors pay no more than \$15 per prescription for drugs listed under the Saskatchewan Formulary.

Ontario:

Effective April 1, 2007: The mark-up paid on eligible ODB claims was reduced from 10% to 8%. Effective October 1, 2006: The maximum dispensing fee was increased from \$6.54 to \$7.00.

Newfoundland and Labrador:

Effective January 31, 2007: The new Low Income Drug Program focuses on providing assistance to low income individuals and families who do not have access to prescription drug coverage and who need help paying for their prescription medications. The program is available for families with children (18 and under) with annual incomes of \$30,000 or less, couples (without children) with annual incomes of \$21,000 or less and single individuals with annual incomes of \$19,000 or less. Example of co-pays:

SINGLE INDIVIDUALS			FAMILIES (WITH NO CHILDREN)			FAMILIES (WITH CHILDREN)		
Income	Gov't	Patient	Income Gov't Patient		Income	Gov't	Patient	
Amount	Pays	Pays	Amount	Pays	Pays	Amount	Pays	Pays
Under	80.0%	20.0%	Under	90.00/	20.0%	Under	80.0%	20.0%
\$13,000	80.0%	20.0%	\$15,000	80.0%		\$21,000	80.070	20.0%
\$14,000	71.7%	28.3%	\$16,000	71.7%	28.3%	\$22,000	74.4%	25.6%
\$15,000	63.3%	36.7%	\$17,000	63.3%	36.7%	\$23,000	68.9%	31.1%
\$16,000	55.0%	45.0%	\$18,000	55.0%	45.0%	\$24,000	63.3%	36.7%
\$17,000	46.7%	53.3%	\$19,000	46.7%	53.3%	\$25,000	57.8%	42.2%
\$18,000	38.3%	61.7%	\$20,000	38.3%	61.7%	\$26,000	52.2%	47.8%
\$19,000	30.0%	70.0%	\$21,000	30.0%	70.0%	\$27,000	46.7%	53.3%
Example: A	Example: A family with an income of \$22,000 with at least one					\$28,000	41.1%	58.9%
child would qualify for the program with a co-pay rate of 25.6%. A					25.6%. A	\$29,000	35.6%	64.4%
single individ	lual with t	he same in	come would r	not qualify.		\$30,000	30.0%	70.0%

Eligibility (B.C., Alta., Sask., Man., Ont.)

Eligibility	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Plan/Program	 Fair PharmaCare Plan B—Permanent Residents of Licensed Long-Term Care Facilities Plan C—Recipients of British Columbia Income Assistance Benefits Plan D—Cystic Fibrosis Plan F—Children in the at home program Plan G—No-Charge Psychiatric Medication Program Plan P—Palliative Care 	 Seniors Widows Palliative Non-Group 	Universal Program	FS03—Employment and Income Assistance Program NH02—Personal Home Care/ Nursing Homes PA04—Palliative Care PC01—Pharmacare	ODB—Ontario Drug Benefit Program
Beneficiary Group	Residents of British Columbia for at least three months	Seniors Alberta residents aged 65 or older and their eligible dependants. Widows Alberta residents aged 55 to 64 who qualify for Alberta Widows' Pension and eligible dependants Palliative Palliative residents treated at home Non-Group Alberta residents under the age of 65	Families/individuals applying for and approved for the Drug Plan's Special Support program (income tested); Supplementary Health Program; People nominated for coverage by Saskatchewan Community Resources and Employment. Guaranteed Income Supplement recipients;	FS03 Individual Manitobans that are receiving drug benefits pursuant to the Employment and Income Assistance Program. NH02 Manitoba residents of Personal Care Homes PA04 Residents who are terminally ill and wish to remain at home PC01 All provincial residents who are eligible for benefits	People 65 years of age and older; Residents of long-term care facilities; Residents of Homes for Special Care; People receiving professional services under the Home Care program; Trillium Drug Program recipients;

Eligibility	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
			 Government of Canada program for low-income seniors. Saskatchewan Income Plan recipients; Provincial program to provide a monthly supplement to low-income seniors. Seniors' Drug Plan; All residents 65 years of age and older not already covered by another plan. Families/individuals approved for Family Health Benefits (eligibility is established by Saskatchewan Community Resources and Employment, based on the number of children in the family and the family's annual income) Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living (SAIL) beneficiaries (Paraplegics, Cystic Fibrosis, and Chronic Renal Disease); 	under The Prescription Drug Cost Assistance Act. Persons who meet the following qualifications are designated as an eligible individual to receive benefits under the Act: • a person must be a resident as defined in The Health Services Insurance Act and be registered and eligible for benefits under that Act; • a person must be a member of a family unit whose members have, in a benefit year, collectively spent more on specified drugs than the deductible amount determined. • an application to become eligible must be made to the minister by the person's family unit, and the minister must be satisfied that the members of the family unit have, in a benefit year, collectively spent more on specified	People receiving social assistance under the Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support programs

Eligibility	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
			 Persons approved for the Drug Plan's Palliative Care coverage (residents who are in the late stages of a terminal illness); Government Wards; Inmates of provincial correctional institutions; Families granted Emergency Assistance (residents who require immediate treatment with covered prescription drugs and are unable to cover their share of the cost. This is a one-time benefit, and individuals are encouraged to apply for income-tested coverage for future assistance) Not eligible: Citizens whose health services are covered under First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada, Department of Veteran Affairs, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian Forces, 	drugs than the deductible amount determined. Not eligible are: Citizens whose health services are covered under First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada, Veteran Affairs, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian Forces, Worker's Compensation, Federal Penitentiaries or Private Drug Benefit plans are not eligible for Provincial Drug Plan benefits as per section 2(2) (a) & (b) in The Prescription Drug Cost Assistance Act.	

Eligibility	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
			Worker's Compensation or Federal Penitentiaries are not eligible for Drug Plan benefits under Saskatchewan Health		
Income Range	Plan C BC residents in receipt of Income assistance through the Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance. Plan G Low-income residents. An Application for Psychiatric Medication Coverage to a mental health service centre is required for approval	Widows Recipients of the Alberta Widows' Pension Non-Group Subsidized premiums available for lowincome Albertans (singles less than \$15,970, family with no children less than \$28,240, family with children less than \$34,250)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Age Range	Fair Pharmacare Fair PharmaCare Residents born 1940 or later (varies yearly) Fair PharmaCare Enhanced Assistance— Residents born 1939 or earlier (varies yearly) Plan F Less than 18 years old	Seniors 65 or older, or their spouse/partner, or their eligible dependent(s) Widows 55 to 64 Non-Group Under 65	N/A	N/A	N/A

Eligibility	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Disease- Specific	 Individuals with Cystic Fibrosis (Plan D) Severely handicapped children—At-home program (Plan F) Clients of Mental Health Service Centre (Plan G) (meeting low income criterion) 	Alberta has special drug programs for cancer drugs, select high cost drugs funded through Province Wide Services, and public health drugs such as vaccines, TB and STDs. Drug use data for these special drug programs are not included in NPDUIS	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other eligibility criteria	Fair PharmaCare— Criteria for Fair Pharmacare Financial Assistance, an individual must: Have effective British Columbia Medical Services Plan (MSP) coverage; Have filed an income tax return for the relevant taxation year Criteria for Fair PharmaCare Enhanced Assistance, an individual must: Have been born in 1939 or earlier; Have effective British Columbia Medical Services Plan (MSP) coverage; and	Seniors Be registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) and have not opted out of the plan Widows Recipients of the Alberta Widows' Pension Palliative Be registered with the AHCIP and have not opted out of the plan. Be diagnosed by a physician as being palliative. Be receiving treatments at home Non-Group Be registered with AHCIP and have not opted out of the plan. Not be in arrears for AHCIP	N/A	N/A	N/A

Eligibility	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Eligibility	- Have filed an income tax return for the relevant taxation year • Plan B Enrol in and receive coverage under Plan B through the care facility • Plan C Must be registered in MSP and be enrolled either through the Ministry of Children and Family Development or the Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance • Plan D Individuals with Cystic Fibrosis who are registered with a provincial cystic fibrosis clinic • Plan F - Age 17 or younger - A resident of BC - Living at home with a parent or guardian	Alta.	Sask.	Wan.	Ont.
	Assessed as dependent in at least three of four areas of daily living				

Eligibility	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
	Plan G Patient's physician or psychiatrist must submit an Application for Psychiatric Medication Coverage to a mental health service centre for approval Patient must qualify for premium assistance under the B.C. Medical Services Plan. Plan P Enrolled in MSP, living at home Diagnosed as being in the terminal stage of a life-threatening illness Have a life expectancy of up to six months The physician submits an application, certifying the individual meets				
Sources	the criteria For more information: British Columbia PharmaCare	For more information: Alberta Health and Wellness	For more information: Saskatchewan Health Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch	For more information: Manitoba Health	For more information: Ontario Drug Benefit Program

Eligibility (N.B., N.S., P.E.I., N.L., Y.T., FNIHB)

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Plan/Program	 A—Seniors' Program B—Cystic Fibrosis E—Individuals in Licensed Residential Facilities F—Family and Community Services G—Children in the Care of the Minister of Family and Community Services H—Multiple Sclerosis R—Organ Transplant T—Human Growth Hormone U—HIV V—Nursing Home 	C — Drug Assistance for Cancer patients D — Nova Scotia Diabetes Assistance Program F — Department of Community Services Programs S — Seniors' Pharmacare Program	A—AIDS/HIV Program B—Community Mental Health Program C—Cystic Fibrosis Program D—Diabetes Control Program E—Erythropoietin Program F—Family Health Benefit Program G—Growth Hormone H—Hepatitis Program I—Immunization Program I—Immunization Program I—Imfron A (Interferon alfa-2b) Program M—High Cost Drug Program M—High Cost Drug Program N—Institutional Pharmacy/Nursing Home Program O—Nutrition Services Program P—Phenylketonuria (PKU) Program	 E—Social Services Drug Program L—Low Income Drug Program N—Senior Citizens Drug Subsidy Program 	 Children's Drug and Optical Program Chronic Disease Program Pharmacare 	• NIHB—Non-Insured Health Benefits

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Beneficiary Group	• A—Seniors who receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or who qualify for benefits based on an annual income as follows: — a single senior with an annual income of \$17,198 or less;	C—Residents having a gross family income no greater than \$15,720 per year, and not eligible for coverage under other drug programs D—Residents aged under 65 with a valid Nova Scotia Health Card and who do not have	 R-Rabies Program S-Seniors Drug Cost Assistance Plan T-Transplant Program U-Rheumatic Fever Program V-Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Program W-Children-In-Care/Financial Assistance Program X-Tuberculosis (TB) Drug Program Z-Quit Smoking Program A-Persons diagnosed as HIV positive with AIDS, or with a needle stick injury and registered with the program through the Chief Health Officer B-Approved long-term psychiatric patients living in the community 	• E—Residents who qualify for full benefit coverage under the Department of Human Resources and Employment. Residents who, due to the high cost of their medications, may qualify for drug card only benefits	Children's Drug and Optical Program Children under the age of 19 years from low-income families and not having coverage through First Nations and Inuit Health Program	Registered Indian or recognized Inuit (regardless of province or territory of residency)

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Ү.Т.	FNIHB
	 a senior couple (both age ≥ 65) with a combined annual income of \$26,955 or less; a senior couple with one spouse under 65, with a combined annual income of \$32,390 or less B - Cystic fibrosis patients or patients with juvenile or infant sclerosis of the pancreas E - Individuals residing in a licensed residential facility who hold a valid health card for prescription drugs issued by the Department of Family and Community Services 	drug coverage through Veterans Affairs Canada, First Nations and Inuit Health, or any private drug plans that cover diabetes supplies, that have a confirmed diagnosis of diabetes • F—Eligible clients and their dependents in receipt of Income Assistance who do not have access to another drug plan, be it from a public or private entity • S—Residents aged 65 or older with a valid Nova Scotia Health Card and who do not have drug coverage through Veterans Affairs Canada, First Nations and Inuit Health, or a private drug plan	 C—Persons eligible for PEI Medicare, diagnosed with cystic fibrosis and who are registered with the program D—Persons with diabetes eligible for PEI Medicare and whom their Physician registers in the program E—Persons eligible for PEI Medicare who have been diagnosed with chronic renal failure or are receiving kidney dialysis and who do not have any other drug insurance F—Only parents/guardian s and children under 18 years of age who are eligible for PEI Medicare, in the following income ranges: 1 child with a net annual 	L—Families with dependent children (less than 18 years of age and living at home or between 18 and 20 years of age who are attending high school and living at home) with annual household incomes up to \$30,000; Couples earning up to \$21,000; Single individuals earning up to \$19,000 a year N—Residents 65 years of age and over who are registered with the Old Age Security Division of Health and Welfare Canada, and who are in receipt of the Guaranteed Income Supplement	Chronic Disease Program Residents who have a chronic disease or a serious functional disability as provided under the Chronic Disease and Disability Benefits Regulations. Program may also include clients receiving Palliative Care Pharmacare Seniors 65 years of age or older (and seniors' spouses aged 60 years and older) registered with Yukon Health Care Insurance Plan (YCHCIP) and not having coverage through First Nations and Inuit Health Program. Program may also include clients receiving Palliative Care	

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
	F—Individuals holding a valid health card for prescription drugs issued by the Department of Family and Community Services G—Special needs children and children under the care of the Minister of Family and Community Services H—Residents in possession of a prescription written by a neurologist for the medications Avonex, Rebif, Betaseron or Copaxone are eligible to apply for assistance R—Organ transplant recipients who are registered and qualify with the NBPDP T—Individuals with growth hormone deficiency who		family income less than \$22,000; - 2 children with a net annual family income of less than \$24,000; - For each additional child, add \$2,000 • G—Children eligible for PEI Medicare with a proven growth deficiency or Turners Syndrome, and who are registered with the program • H—Persons diagnosed with hepatitis; Persons who have been in close contact with a person diagnosed with hepatitis or are at risk of infection; Persons with an occupational risk of infection			

Eligibility N	I.B. N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Ү.Т.	FNIHB
and que the NE U—Inc who a positive registed the NE through proving infection diseased special v—Inc who re a registed the NE through proving infection diseased special v—Inc who re a registed the NE through proving infection diseased special v—Inc who re a registed the NE v—Inc	dividuals are HIV ave and are ered with BPDP gh a acial ious se alist dividuals eside in	I—Children and persons at risk for exposure to various communicable diseases J—For the treatment of patients diagnosed with hairy Cell Leukemia, AIDS-related Kaposi's Sarcoma, and Basal Cell Carcinoma. The person's Physician must request coverage from the Chief Health Officer of the Department of Health and Social Services K—Persons who have been in close contact with a person diagnosed with meningitis or are at risk of infection M—Persons eligible for PEI Medicare, and approved for coverage of one or more of the			

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	medications included in the program. Patients must apply for coverage on an annual basis and provide income information to the program • N — Residents in private nursing homes eligible for coverage under the Welfare Assistance Act. • O — Children and high risk pregnant women diagnosed with a nutritional deficiency • P — Island children under 18 years and diagnosed with Phenylketonuria • R — Persons with exposure to or at risk for exposure to rabies through an animal bite • S — Persons	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
			eligible for PEI Medicare and 65 years of age or more			

Eligibility N.B. N.S. P.E.I N.L. Y.T. FNIHB	
T—Residents who have had an organ or bone marrow transplant. A letter from a Physician confirming the transplant is required U—Persons eligible for PEI Medicare and who have a well documented history of rheumatic fever or rheumatic heart disease and are registered with the program V—Persons diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease or identified contacts of a person diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease with a sexually transmitted disease eligible under the Welfare Assistance Act	

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
			and persons in the temporary or permanent care of the Director of Child Welfare • X—Patients must have a diagnosis of tuberculosis confirmed by the Chief Health Officer of the Department of Health and Social Services • Z—Persons eligible for PEI Medicare and who have registered with the program			
Income Range	A—For seniors without GIS: Single senior with an annual income of \$17,198 or less; Senior couple (both age ≥ 65) with a combined annual income of \$26,955 or less; Senior couple with one spouse under 65 with a combined annual income of \$32,390 or less	C—Gross family income no greater than \$15,720 D—No income based criteria for eligibility however, deductible is based on income—See section of deductible F—As determined by Department of Community Services	N/A	E—Residents who qualify for full benefit coverage under the Departments of Human Resources and Employment. Residents who, due to the high cost of their medications, may qualify for drug card only benefits	Tables with family income and family size are used to determine deductibles for Chronic Disease and Children's Drug and Optical programs. The table for Children's Drug and Optical indicates income ranges that would not be eligible for program	N/A

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Age Range	• A-65 and older	S-No income based criteria for eligibility however, premium is based on income-See section on premium C-Under 65	• G —Under	L—Families with dependent children (less than 18 years of age and living at home or between 18 and 20 years of age who are attending high school and living at home) with annual household incomes up to \$30,000; Couples earning up to \$21,000; Single individuals earning up to \$19,000 a year N—Seniors in receipt of the Guaranteed Income Supplement and who are registered for Old Age Security benefits N—65 or older	• Children's Drug	N/A
Age nalige	■ A—os and older	 C—Under 65 D—Under 65 F—Under 65 S—65 and older 	 G-Under 18 years P-Under 18 years S-65 years and older 	• IV—05 or older	and Optical Program Children 0 to 18 years of age	IV/A

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Disease- Specific	B—Cystic fibrosis or juvenile or infant sclerosis of the pancreas H—Multiple sclerosis R—Organ transplant T—Human growth hormone U—HIV	• C—Cancer • D—Diabetes	 A—AIDS/HIV B—Mental Health C—Cystic Fibrosis D—Diabetes G—Growth Hormone H—Hepatitis I—Immunization J—Intron A (Interferon alfa-2b) K—Meningitis M—High Cost Drugs P— Phenylketonuria (PKU) R—Rabies T—Transplant U—Rheumatic V—Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) 	N/A	Pharmacare Seniors 65 years of age or older (and seniors' spouses aged 60 years and older) Chronic Disease Program— Residents who have a chronic disease or a serious functional disability as provided under the Chronic Disease and Disability Benefits Regulations (Residents must use private insurance plans first)	Special formulary for Chronic Renal Failure patients within NIHB
Other eligibility criteria	N/A	C—Not be eligible for coverage under another drug plan	• X—Tuberculosis (TB) N/A	L—Not eligible for coverage under another drug plan	Absence from the Territory for more than 183 (six months) consecutive days	NIHB Program is that it is the payer of last resort i.e. resident must use private, provincial

Eligibility	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
		D—Do not have coverage through Veterans Affairs Canada, First Nations and Inuit Health, or a private drug plan that covers diabetes supplies S—Do not have coverage through Veterans Affairs Canada, First Nations and Inuit Health, or a private drug plan			will result in suspension of drug and benefit costs reimbursement starting the date of departure. A one-month extension will be considered on application to the Director of Health Care Insurance where the Yukon is the location of the applicant's only principal residence. On return to the Territory, the resident may re-apply for coverage under the respective program	or territorial health plan first if eligible for any of those.
Sources	For more information: New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program	For more information: Nova Scotia Drug Programs and Funding—Pharmacare	For more information: Prince Edward Island Drug Program	For more information: Newfoundland and Labrador Prescription Drug Program	For more information: Yukon Health and Social Services	For more information: Non-Insured Health Benefits

Cost-Sharing Mechanism (B.C., Alta., Sask., Man., Ont.)

Cost-sharing Mechanism	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Premium	None	Non-Group \$61.50 per quarter for individuals, \$123 per quarter for families. If the individual/family qualifies for Alberta Health Care Insurance Premium Subsidy (based on previous years' taxable income), then \$43.05 per quarter for individuals, \$86.10 per quarter for families	None	None	None
Co-Payment/ Co-insurance	Fair PharmaCare Fair PharmaCare After meeting their annual deductible, families pay 30% for eligible prescription drug costs for the remainder of the calendar year (or until reaching their annual maximum— whichever comes first)	Seniors 30% per prescription up to a maximum of \$25 Widows 30% per prescription up to a maximum of \$25 Palliative 30% per prescription up to a maximum of \$25 Non-Group 30% per prescription up to a maximum of \$25	 Income-tested (based on benefit drug costs, to help spread cost out evenly over the year) 35% for seniors receiving the Saskatchewan Income Plan supplement or receiving the federal Guaranteed Income Supplement (automatically receive this co-pay but may also apply for income-tested coverage) 35% for Family Health Benefits; 	None	ODB recipients pay up to \$2 per prescription (i.e. co-payment) if they are: A senior single person with an annual net income of less than \$16,018 A senior couple with a combined annual net income of less than \$24,175 Receiving benefits under the Ontario Works Act or the Ontario Disability Support Program Act

Cost-sharing Mechanism	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
	Fair PharmaCare Enhanced Assistance After meeting their annual deductible, families pay 25% for eligible prescription drug costs for the remainder of the calendar year (or until reaching their annual maximum— whichever comes first)		no charge for benefit prescriptions for FHB children under 18 Up to \$2.00 per prescription for Supplementary Health (Persons nominated by Saskatchewan Community Resources and Employment for special coverage, including persons on Social Assistance, wards, inmates, etc.); some drugs covered at no charge; individuals under 18 and certain other categories receive benefit prescriptions at no charge For the Emergency Assistance Program, the level of assistance provided is in accordance with the consumer's ability to pay		 Receiving professional services under the Home Care Program Residents of Long-Term Care facilities and Homes for Special Care Eligible under the Trillium Drug Program ODB recipients each pay their first annual \$100 (i.e. prorated deductible based on number of months) in prescription costs each year. After that, they pay up to \$6.11 (i.e. co-payment) toward the ODB dispensing fee on each prescription if they are: A senior single person with an annual net income equal to or greater than \$16,018 A senior couple with a combined annual net income equal to or greater than \$24,175

Cost-sharing Mechanism	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont. Co-payment of \$2.83 for prescriptions dispensed in outpatient hospital
Deductible	Fair PharmaCare Fair PharmaCare— Net Family income <\$15,000 Deductible = \$0 Net Family income \$15,000 to \$30,000 Deductible = 2% of net income Net Family income >\$30,000 Deductible = 3% of net income Fair PharmaCare Enhanced Assistance— Net Family income <\$33,000 Deductible = \$0 Net Family income \$33,000 Deductible = \$0 Net Family income \$33,000 to \$50,000 Deductible = 1% of net income Net Family income \$33,000 Deductible = 2% of net income Net Family income >\$50,000 Deductible = 2% of net income	None	Income-tested (annual threshold based on 3.4% of adjusted family income) \$100 semi-annual family deductible for seniors receiving the Saskatchewan Income Plan supplement or receiving the federal Guaranteed Income Supplement and residing in a special care home (automatically receive this deductible but may also apply for income-tested coverage) \$200 semi-annual family deductible for seniors receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement and living in the community (automatically receive this deductible but may also apply for income-tested coverage)	Income tested— annual threshold based on total adjusted family income (total adjusted family income is total annual income on line 150 of income tax return less \$3,000 for a spouse and each eligible dependent). The deductible is the greater of: - \$100 - Or the amount determined by multiplying the adjusted family income by the relevant percent. In fiscal year 2006–2007, the deductible rates for adjusted family incomes: <= \$15,000 then 2.56%; >\$15,000 and <= \$40,000 then 3.83%;	pharmacies \$ 100 deductible for: - Single seniors (65 or older) with annual income of \$16,018 or more - Senior couples with a combined annual income of \$24,175 or more Trillium Drug Program applicants must pay a quarterly or prorated deductible that is based on income No deductible for other ODB eligible people

Cost-sharing Mechanism	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
	Note: The deductible is based on income bands so it is not exact to the percentages provided. No deductible is applied to the remaining Plans/Programs.		 \$100.00 semi-annual family deductible for Family Health Benefits No deductible for people covered under the Palliative Care Drug Program. 	> \$40,000 and < = \$75,000 then 4.41%; > \$75,000 then 5.51% No deductible for people covered under the Palliative Care Program.	
Maximum Beneficiary Contribution	Fair PharmaCare Fair PharmaCare - Net Family income <\$15,000 Maximum = 2% of net income Net Family income \$15,000 to \$30,000 Maximum = 3% of net income Net Family income >\$30,000 Maximum = 4% of net income Fair PharmaCare Enhanced Assistance - Net Family income <\$33,000 Maximum = 1.25% of net income Net Family income \$33,000 to \$50,000 Maximum = 2% of net income Net Family income \$33,000 to \$50,000 Maximum = 2% of net income	• Palliative \$1,000	Seniors pay no more than \$15 per prescription for drugs listed under the Saskatchewan Formulary.	The maximum beneficiary contribution is based on the beneficiary deductible. Once a person deductible has been met then all eligible drug costs are reimbursed.	N/A

Cost-sharing Mechanism	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
	Net Family income > \$50,000 Maximum = 3% of net income				
	Note: The maximum is based on income bands so it is not exact to the percentages provided.				
	No maximum beneficiary contribution is applied to the remaining Plans/Programs.				
Sources	For more information: British Columbia PharmaCare	For more information: Alberta Health and Wellness	For more information: Saskatchewan Health Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch	For more information: Manitoba Health	For more information: Ontario Drug Benefit Program

Cost-Sharing Mechanism (N.B., N.S., P.E.I., N.L., Y.T., FNIHB)

Cost-Sharing Mechanism	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Premium	B - \$50.00 yearly registration fee H - \$50.00 yearly registration fee R - \$50.00 yearly registration fee T - \$50.00 yearly registration fee U - \$50.00 yearly registration fee registration fee	C—No premium D—No premium F—No premium S—No premium for people who receive the GIS. For those who do not receive the GIS, they must pay a premium of up to \$400 a year. Some low- income seniors who do not get the GIS may qualify for reduced premiums.	None	None	None	None
Co-Payment/ Co-insurance	A—Seniors with GIS: \$9.05 for each prescription, up to a maximum of \$250 in one calendar year; Seniors without GIS: \$15.00 per prescription B—20% of the costs for each prescription up to a maximum of \$20 E—\$4.00 for each prescription F—\$4.00 for	C-No co-payment D-20% of the total prescription cost F-\$5.00 per prescription unless the client or dependent is eligible for co- pay exemption S-33% of the total prescription cost to a maximum of \$30 for each prescription (minimum of \$3 per prescription)	D—Insulin:	• N-Mark-up and Professional Fee • L-Families (with children): Income Amount: <\$21,000: 20.0% \$22,000: 25.6% \$23,000: 31.1% \$24,000: 36.7% \$25,000: 42.2% \$26,000: 47.8% \$27,000: 53.3% \$28,000: 58.9% \$29,000: 64.4% \$30,000: 70.0%	None	None

Cost-Sharing Mechanism	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
	each prescription for adults (18 and over) and \$2.00 for children (under 18 years) • H—Ranges from zero to 100 per cent of the prescription cost, depends on discretionary income. The co-pay is determined annually during the re-qualification period • R—20% of the costs for each prescription up to a maximum of \$20 • T—20% of the costs for each prescription up to a maximum of \$20 • U—20% of the costs for each prescription up to a maximum of \$20 • U—20% of the costs for each prescription up to a maximum of \$20		 \$11.00 per prescription High Cost Diabetes Medications: An income based portion of the medication plus the dispensing fee for each high cost medication obtained. F—The pharmacy fee \$7.50 per prescription M—Income tested co-pay plus the pharmacy professional fee for each prescription S—First \$11.00 of the medication cost plus the pharmacy professional fee for each prescription Z—Patients are responsible for all medication costs approved, except for the first \$75.00 which will be paid by the program 	Couples (with no children): Income Amount: < \$15,000: 20.0% \$16,000: 28.3% \$17,000: 36.7% \$18,000: 45.0% \$19,000: 53.3% \$20,000: 61.7% \$21,000: 70.0% Single individuals: Income Amount: < \$13,000: 20.0% \$14,000: 28.3% \$15,000: 36.7% \$16,000: 45.0% \$17,000: 53.3% \$18,000: 61.7% \$19,000: 70.0%		

None C.—No deductible D.—Deductible is based on adjusted annual family income (AAFI) (equal to annual family income (AAFI) (equal to annual family income less \$3000 for a spouse and each family member under the age of 18 years) and is calculated as follows: AAFI less than \$11,000	Cost-Sharing Mechanism	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
\$1,000 that AAFI exceeds \$31,000		None	D—Deductible is based on adjusted annual family income (AAFI) (equal to annual family income less \$3000 for a spouse and each family member under the age of 18 years) and is calculated as follows: AAFI less than \$15,000: No deductible AAFI between \$15,000 and \$30,999: Deductible starts at \$7.50 and increases by 0.05% for every \$1,000 that AAFI exceeds \$15,000 AAFI between \$31,000 and \$45,999: Deductible starts at \$279.00 and increases by 0.1% for every \$1,000 that AAFI exceeds \$15,000 and \$45,999: Deductible starts at \$279.00 and increases by 0.1% for every \$1,000 that AAFI exceeds \$15,000 and increases by 0.1% for every \$1,000 that AAFI	None	None	Drug and Optical Program Maximum \$250.00 per child and \$500.00 per family. Deductible may be waived or reduced depending on income. • Chronic Disease Program Maximum \$250 per individual and \$500 per family, waived for Palliative Care recipients. Deductible may be waived or reduced depending	None

Cost-Sharing Mechanism	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
		AAFI \$46,000 or over: Deductible starts at \$1,115.50 and increases by 0.125% for every \$1,000 that AAFI exceeds \$46,000 • F—No deductible • S—No deductible				
Maximum Beneficiary Contribution	A—Seniors with GIS: \$250 in one calendar year B—\$500 per family unit in one fiscal year + premium (see above) E—\$250 per person in a fiscal year F—\$250 per family unit in a fiscal year R—\$500 per family unit in a fiscal year + premium (see above) T—\$500 per family unit in one fiscal year + premium (see above) U—\$500 per family unit in one fiscal year + premium (see above) U—\$500 per family unit in one fiscal year + premium (see above)	• S—Annual maximum co- payment of \$360 + premium (see above)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Cost-Sharing Mechanism	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Sources	For more information: New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program	For more information: Nova Scotia Drug Programs and Funding—Pharmacare	For more information: Prince Edward Island Drug Program	For more information: Newfoundland and Labrador Prescription Drug Program	For more information: Yukon Health and Social Services	For more information: Non-Insured Health Benefits

Policy Related Information (B.C., Alta., Sask., Man., Ont.)

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Prescription Cost Components	PharmaCare will pay the pharmacy's Actual Acquisition Cost (AAC), including freight costs, up to a maximum of 7% above the manufacturer's list price for wholesaled drugs, plus the Professional/ dispensing Fee	Actual Acquisition Cost + Professional Fees + Inventory Allowance There are 3 drug price policies: least cost alternative (LCA), maximum allowable cost (MAC), and actual acquisition cost (AAC). The LCA price is the lowest unit cost established for a drug product within a set of interchangeable drug products. Alberta's supplemental health plans will only pay for the lowest-priced drug product where interchangeable (generic) products can be used to fill a prescription. Beneficiaries who choose higher cost alternatives are responsible for paying the difference. The MAC price is the maximum unit cost established for a specific drug product or a selected group of interchangeable drug products. A small number of products are subject to MAC pricing.	Benefits are based on the lowest priced interchangeable brand as listed in the Formulary. Maximum Allowable Cost Classes of drugs are reviewed by the province's expert drug review committees to determine which products are equally safe, beneficial, and cost-effective. The price of the most cost-effective drugs are used as a guide to set the maximum price that the Drug Plan will cover for other similar drugs, used to treat the same condition. Prescription Cost The prescription cost is calculated by adding the actual acquisition cost of the drug material (which can include an allowable wholesale mark-up), the pharmacy mark-up (up to a maximum) and dispensing fee (up to a maximum).	Prescription Cost The prescription cost is equal to the cost of specified drug (the price of the specified drug to the pharmacist or holder of the pharmacy license), and a professional fee (the professional fee is equal to the amount regularly charged by a pharmacist to persons who are responsible for paying the fee without reimbursement). Low Cost Alternative Benefits are based on the lowest priced interchangeable brand as listed in the Formulary whether or not the specified drug is prescribed with a "no sub" or "no substitution" instruction.	Drug Benefit Price (DBP) + Mark-up + Professional Fee Where Actual Acquisition Cost exceeds DBP +10%, pharmacists may claim AAC. A mark-up is not paid on these claims.

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
		Pursuant to the Pharmacy Agreement, pharmacists are expected to charge the actual acquisition cost (AAC) of a drug product. For interchangeable drug products, pharmacists can only charge the AAC to a maximum of the LCA price.			
Professional Fees	 PharmaCare reimburses up to \$8.60 for dispensing fee Plan B dispensing pharmacies are paid a capitation fee (per long-term care bed) Methadone (maintenance) Interaction Fee: \$7.70 Special Services Fee: Remuneration to pharmacists if they choose not to fill a prescription based on their professional opinion (fee of twice the dispensing fee) Emergency Contraceptive honorarium (\$15.00) 	Alberta has two types of professional fees: dispensing fees and Additional Inventory Allowance. The new Additional Inventory Allowance pricing component was implemented effective July 1, 2000. DISPENSING FEES: From April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006, \$10.22 to \$20.94 depending on the acquisition cost of the drug ADDITIONAL INVENTORY ALLOWANCE: From April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2006, \$0.71 to \$5.03 depending on the acquisition cost of the drug	The maximum dispensing fee is \$8.21 (effective December 1, 2005).	 The professional fee for Pharmacare is equal to the amount regularly charged by a pharmacist to persons who are responsible for paying the fee without reimbursement. The Employment and Income Assistance program has a maximum professional fee of \$6.95. Monthly capitation fee for personal care homes; \$31.74 per bed/month for Winnipeg and \$32.34 per bed/month for rural areas. 	The maximum dispensing fee is \$7.00.

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Mark-up	 Maximum 7% if bought from wholesalers PharmaCare does not cover (pay for) retail mark-up Mark-up is built into the ingredient cost, regardless of whom it is purchased from 	Prices listed in the Alberta Health and Wellness Drug Benefit List include a wholesaler mark-up, but only if the drug manufacturer distributes through a wholesaler only. In such cases, they are asked to include a distribution allowance of up to 7.5%. This includes both single source and interchangeable products. In the April 2005 List, approximately 40% of the products included this distribution allowance.	The maximum pharmacy mark-up allowance calculated on the prescription drug cost is: • 30% for drug cost up to \$6.30 • 15% for drug cost between \$6.31 and \$15.80 • 10% for drug cost of \$15.81 to \$200.00 • Maximum mark-up of \$20.00 for drug cost over \$200.00	N/A	Maximum 8% where permitted
Ingredient Pricing Policy	AAC is adjusted to reflect the true cost to the pharmacy and is net of any cash discounts, volume discounts, rebates or performance allowances.	All prices printed in the Alberta Health and Wellness Drug Benefit List are based on responses to a Request for Quotation (RFQ) for the period of time during which the List is in effect. An RFQ was sent to all pharmaceutical manufacturers whose products are included in the List or were under review for possible addition to the List	Manufacturers are required to guarantee the prices of their listed products for a sixmonth period (January—June; July—December). The prices published in the Formulary include the maximum allowable wholesale mark-up. Pharmacies are required by contract to submit their actual acquisition cost of the drug, which may be less than the published formulary price	The specified drug as listed in the Specified Drug Regulations is equal to the cost for the lowest priced interchangeable product prescribed in the formulary. Or in any other case, the lowest usual price of the specified drug as charged from time to time by wholesalers or manufacturers that supply pharmaceuticals to pharmacists or holders of pharmacy licenses.	 Since January 1999, the Ministry will consider manufacturer requests for price increases that are cost neutral to the ODB in that any price increase needs to be offset by price decreases on other listed products. Before a product is approved for listing, the Ministry and the manufacturer must agree on its Drug Benefit Price (DBP).

Policy Related B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Information		Standing Offer Contract (SOC) The Drug Plan tenders the drugs in certain interchangeable groups to obtain the lowest possible price. An accepted tender, called SOC requires the manufacturer to guarantee delivery of the specific drug to pharmacies through approved distributors at the contracted price. In return, the manufacturer's product will be used almost exclusively. Only the accepted tendered drug can be used to fill a prescription in an SOC interchangeable group.	Mail.	 Prices of patented drugs must comply with the Price Guidelines set by the Patented Medicines Price Review Board (PMPRB). Prices of multiple-source drugs must comply with the "70/90" price rule where the first generic is priced no greater than 70% of the DBP of the original product and subsequent generics are priced no more than 63% of the DBP (90% of the first generic price). When a pharmacy is not able to purchase a Formulary listed drug at a price less than or equal to its ODB reimbursement amount (i.e. the drug benefit price + 10% mark up), payment of the acquisition cost to the pharmacy of the least expensive listed drug product in the pharmacy's inventory may be claimed. This is referred to as a "cost-to-operator" claim.

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Coordination of benefits (Public/Private)	With the exception of BC residents covered by Veteran Affairs Canada, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Canadian Forces, Worker's Compensation (WCB), or the federal Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) program, PharmaCare covers every individual. PharmaCare will consider coverage first and private insurance will consider coverage second.	Alberta Health and Wellness allows coordination of benefits between its Alberta Blue Cross non-group plans and private plans. The payment is shared pursuant to the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association (CLHIA) rules regarding Coordination of Benefits.	The Drug Plan is the first payor on eligible claims for eligible beneficiaries. Costs not covered by the Drug Plan are either sent electronically by the pharmacy or manually by the patient to their private insurance carrier (where applicable).	 For each benefit year beginning on or after April 1, 1996, the amount of the benefits payable to a family unit is the cost of specified drugs incurred collectively by the family unit in the benefit year that exceeds the deductible amount determined. A person is not considered to have spent an amount on the cost of a specified drug in the following cases: The person is entitled to be reimbursed for the cost of the specified drug from a source other than the government to the extent of the reimbursement. The person is entitled to have the cost of the specified drug paid from a fund or pursuant to a program established under a law enacted by Parliament or a legislature in Canada or elsewhere. 	Claims for seniors with both Private Insurance and Public Provincial coverage are processed under their Provincial Plan first. Individuals or families can apply to the Trillium Drug Program if private insurance does not cover 100% of their prescription drug costs and if they are not eligible for drug coverage under the ODB Program.

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Coordination of benefits (Intrajurisdictionally)	For PharmaCare claims, the rules of Plan adjudication are as follows, by Plan priority. If a patient doesn't meet the criteria of one plan, they will move on to the next until a plan is selected. If one plan only offers partial coverage (e.g. based on medication) then a patient could have claims and payments for multiple plans. The order of adjudication is as follows: Plan B Plan P Plan D Plan G Plan F	Alberta Health and Wellness does not permit coordination of benefits across its public plans. As Albertans can only be enrolled in one of our plans, coordination of benefits would not be possible. Generally, Albertans eligible for coverage under federal plans do not seek coverage under one of the Alberta Health and Wellness non-group plans.	Citizens whose health services are covered under First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada, Department of Veteran Affairs, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian Forces, Worker's Compensation or Federal Penitentiaries are not eligible for Drug Plan benefits under Saskatchewan Health.	Citizens whose health services are covered under First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada, Veteran Affairs, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian Forces, Worker's Compensation, Federal Penitentiaries or Private Drug Benefit plans are not eligible for Provincial Drug Plan benefits as per section 2(2) (a) & (b) in The Prescription Drug Cost Assistance Act. Citizens whose health services are covered under First Nations and Inuit Health, Health Canada, Veteran Affairs, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian Forces, Worker's Compensation, Federal Penitentiaries or Private Drug Benefit plans are not eligible for Provincial Drug Plan benefits as per section 2(2) (a) & (b) in The Prescription Drug Cost Assistance Act.	A person cannot be on more than one provincial public drug plan at the same time.

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
Restricted Benefit Process	 Plan C Fair PharmaCare Enhanced Assistance Fair PharmaCare Special Authority forms are completed by practitioners on behalf of their patients These forms can be forwarded to PharmaCare by mail, fax or telephone The Special Authority requests are adjudicated on an individual basis, according to established criteria Approved requests are entered into a patient's PharmaNet record. The Special Authority coverage is then available through any British Columbia pharmacy. Special authorities are valid from the effective date for various periods of time, depending on the medication and use Information regarding requests is returned to the practitioner by fax or mail 	 Special authorization request forms are completed by physicians and reviewed by clinical pharmacists at Alberta Blue Cross Prior approval must be granted to ensure coverage by special authorization A small number of drugs are restricted to specific age groups 	Exception Drug Status Criteria based coverage for drug products where regular benefit listing may not be appropriate or possible. Physicians, dentists, duly qualified optometrists (or authorized office staff), nurse practitioners and pharmacists may apply for Exception Drug Status (EDS) Requests can be submitted by telephone, by mail or by fax Patients are notified by letter if coverage has been approved and the time period for which coverage has been approved If a request has been denied, letters are sent to the patient and prescriber notifying them of the reason for the denial	A drug or other item not listed in Part 1, or a specified drug listed in Part 2 for use in a different condition, may be considered for eligibility if: it is ordinarily administered only to hospital in-patients and is being administered outside of a hospital; it is not ordinarily prescribed or administered in Manitoba but is being prescribed because it is required in the treatment of a patient having an illness, disability or condition rarely found in Manitoba; or evidence, including therapeutic and economic evidence, provided to the minister in accordance with the criteria established by him or her, supports a specific treatment regime	Limited Use Products—A physician must complete a LU prescription form when prescribing LU products. The patient takes the prescription form to the pharmacy for dispensing. The LU prescription form is valid for one year from the initial date it was completed and signed by the physician. Individual Clinical Review (Section 8)—To apply for special coverage for drug products not listed on the Formulary, the physician must send a written request to the Drug Programs Branch. Ministry staff coordinates the review process, which includes obtaining a recommendation from the Drug Quality and Therapeutics Committee (DQTC). The DQTC requires full details of an individual's case in order to make a

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
	If appropriate, expired Special Authority coverage may be renewed		For pharmacist-initiated EDS requests: The diagnosis, which must be obtained from the physician or physician's agent, is to be consistently documented within the pharmacy, whether the documentation is on the original prescription, computer file, or EDS fax form.	which includes use of the drug or other item. Process: Exception Drug Status Part 2—Adjudicated for payment by the DPIN system automatically if the pharmacist or prescriber indicates on the prescription that the patient meets the established Part 2 criteria. Part 3—The prescriber must contact Manitoba Health to request	recommendation. The ministry's decision on individual coverage in a particular patient's case will be communicated via letter to the physician making the request. If coverage is approved, the physician may provide a copy of the approval notice for the patient to take to their pharmacy.
				eligibility for prescription. Eligibility is from date of approval.	
Reimburse- ment Policy	Every time an enrolled Fair PharmaCare beneficiary purchases medication at a registered BC Pharmacy, a claim is automatically submitted for coverage. If a patient enrols in Fair PharmaCare partway through the (calendar) year, but has paid out of pocket for eligible drugs before enrolling in the program in that year, PharmaCare will	When beneficiaries pay out of pocket, reimbursement claims are permitted. Claims from out-of-province and out-of-country are permitted but coverage is restricted to comparable benefits on the Alberta Health and Wellness Drug Benefit List.	An on-line computer network transmits prescription information from the pharmacy to the central computer where it is checked against stored data to determine whether it can be approved for payment. The prescription claim is adjudicated and cost information is then transmitted back to the pharmacy, detailing the consumer share and	An on-line computer network transmits prescription information from the pharmacy to the central computer where it is checked against stored data to determine whether the prescription can be approved for payment. The prescription information is then transmitted back to the pharmacy, detailing the customers cost share and the drug plan	Claims are only reimbursed when dispensed from an Ontario pharmacy, written by a physician licensed in Ontario and the recipient is an eligible Ontario resident. If a patient meets all the above criteria and pays cash at the pharmacy, they may submit receipt for reimbursement to the Ontario Drug Program.

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Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
	retroactively credit previous eligible drug purchases, and issue a reimbursement cheque where the beneficiary paid more than owing Special Authorities are prioritized by date received and the urgency of the request. On average, most requests are processed within two weeks. To ensure PharmaCare coverage, approval must take place prior to purchase or dispensing of a prescription drug. Retroactive coverage is not provided. The Province does not reimburse for most out of Province claims.		Drug Plan share. Beneficiaries can submit claims if they have had to pay out of pocket for a various reasons (system down, EDS coverage not in place at time of dispensing, etc). Beneficiaries are eligible for the same drug benefits out-of-province as in Saskatchewan, according to Saskatchewan prices and an individual's coverage level. Original receipts for prescriptions purchased in another province or territory can be submitted to the Drug Plan.	The cost of a specified drug when purchased in a province or territory of Canada other than Manitoba, the cost incurred to a maximum amount that is considered reasonable by the minister. The original receipts for prescriptions purchased in another province or territory can be submitted to the Drug Plan for reimbursement.	
Miscellaneous	Prescription Quantities	Prescription Quantities	Prescription Quantities	Prescription Quantities	Prescription Quantities
	PharmaCare limits coverage of all prescription drugs to a maximum 30-day supply (for short term medications and first-time prescriptions for maintenance drugs) or a 100-day supply (for repeat prescriptions of maintenance drugs)	 No limitation on the quantities of drugs that may be prescribed In most cases, Alberta Health and Wellness will not pay benefits for more than a 100-day supply of a drug at one time 	The Drug Plan places no limitation on the quantities of drugs that may be prescribed. Prescribers shall exercise their professional judgment in determining the course and duration of treatment for their patients. However, in most cases, the Drug Plan will not pay	In any 90-day period, no benefit is payable for more than the following number of days' supply (Number of days' supply of a specified drug is equal to the quantity of the specified drug dispensed divided by the person's daily dosage requirements for that drug) of a	The normal quantity dispensed shall be the entire quantity of the drug prescribed. The maximum quantity that may be charged under the ODB program must not exceed that required for a 100-day course of treatment

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
	Pharmacists are responsible for determining whether a prescription is a first fill (and subject to the maximum 30-day supply) or a refill (and eligible, in most cases, for 100-day supply) Exemptions to the 30-day supply limit are available for: Plan B patients Consumers in rural or remote areas Prescriptions under the Trial Prescription Program (where a 14 day trial has been dispensed)		benefits or credit deductibles for more than a 3-month supply of a drug at one time. The pharmacist may charge one dispensing fee for each prescription for most drugs listed in the Formulary. If a prescription is for a duration of one month or more, the pharmacist is entitled to charge a dispensing fee for each 34 day supply, however the contract the Drug Plan has with pharmacies does not prohibit the pharmacist from dispensing more than a 34 day supply for one fee. The contract also contains a list of Two-Month and 100-day supply drugs. Prescribing and dispensing should be in these quantities once the medical therapy of a patient is in the maintenance stage, unless there are unusual circumstances that require these quantities not be dispensed.	specified drug: 100; and up to an additional 100, if the prior approval of the minister has been obtained, and the person will be outside of Canada for more than 90 consecutive days.	Beginning November 14, 2002, the 30-Day Prescription Program was implemented by ODB. All new prescriptions for ODB recipients are subjected to a 30-day maximum prescription limit if they have not been taken in the preceding 12 months. If the newly prescribed drug helps a patient after the initial 30-day supply and the patient is not having any problems with it, the remainder of the prescription can be dispensed up to the maximum 100-day supply. Some recipients are exempt from this program (i.e. travel out-of-province for extended periods, samples from physician, insulin prescriptions). For recipients covered under the Ontario Works Act, the maximum

Policy Related Information	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.
					quantity of medication claimed under the ODB program must not exceed that required for a 35-day course of treatment
Sources	For more information: British Columbia PharmaCare	For more information: Alberta Health and Wellness	For more information: Saskatchewan Health Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch	For more information: Manitoba Health	For more information: Ontario Drug Benefit Program

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Policy Related Information (N.B., N.S., P.E.I., N.L., Y.T., FNIHB)

Policy Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Prescription Cost Components	AAC (Actual Acquisition Cost) or MAP (Maximum Allowable Price) + Dispensing Fee	Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) + Professional Fees; For drugs that are not assigned a MAC, the drug cost billed to the Pharmacare Programs shall be AAC, with no mark-up, plus the applicable professional fee. In the case of injectable products and ostomy supplies, a mark-up is allowed in addition to the AAC and professional fee.	Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) plus professional fee. Where no MAC exists the cost is based upon the manufacturer's net catalogue price and professional fee for manufacturer's defined as direct. If the manufacturer is not defined as direct the cost is the manufacturer's net catalogue price plus a mark-up to a maximum of 13% plus the professional fee.	List Price + Allowable mark-up (see below) + Professional Fees Allowable mark-up = up to 10% when ingredient cost exceeds \$30.00.	AAC + mark-up + Professional Fee	Drug Benefit List Price + Professional Fee + Mark-up (if applicable)
Professional Fees	Ingredient Cost/ Prescription (\$) Prescr	For prescriptions with a drug ingredient cost of up to \$145, the maximum fee is \$10.42; For prescriptions with a drug ingredient cost of more than \$145, the maximum fee is \$15.64.	 Financial Assistance — \$7.50 Diabetes — \$7.50 STD programs — \$7.50 Quit Smoking — \$7.50 There is no maximum fee on all the other programs 	 E-maximum dispensing fee of \$6.50 N-See Co-pay section above 	\$8.75	Pharmacists can charge dispensing fees. They are negotiated between NIHB and pharmacists' associations in a number of provinces/territories and will differ in each jurisdiction.

Policy Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Mark-up	None	10% for injectable products and ostomy supplies only.	See Prescription Cost Components and Ingredient Pricing Policy	E: Up to a 10% mark-up where ingredient cost exceeds \$30.00. N—See Co-pay section above	Pharmacies are allowed a 30% mark-up In addition, if AAC includes a wholesale up charge, this can be included up to a maximum of 14%	Mark-ups, if applicable, are negotiated as part of the pharmacy agreements between NIHB and the pharmacists' associations in the different jurisdictions. If a mark-up exists, it will be submitted by the pharmacy in a separate field in the electronic claim document. The mark-ups are not built into the price file.
Ingredient Pricing Policy	The NB Prescription Drug Program MAP list establishes the maximum amount payable to pharmacies for interchangeable and certain single source drugs.	Actual Acquisition Cost (AAC) means the net cost to the provider after deducting all rebates, allowances, free products, etc. No mark-up or buying profit is to be included in the calculation of AAC. The net cost to the provider is defined as the drug ingredient (or supply) costs based on date of purchase and inventory flow,	PEI Drug Programs creates a Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) list which is published and distributed to Pharmacies twice yearly. For products with a MAC, the ingredient cost is based on the manufacturer's net catalogue price of the lowest product within an interchangeable category plus a mark-up to a maximum of 5%. Where no MAC	(a) List price for companies designated direct distributors; (b) List price + set % markup for companies designated indirect distributors but who have provided a guaranteed maximum wholesale up charge	Yukon Drug Programs Formulary benefits will be based on the lowest priced interchangeable brand available as negotiated with the Pharmacy Society of Yukon. Prices listed in Formulary are based on McKesson wholesale prices.	NIHB pays the amount identified on the price file that is created and maintained on NIHB's behalf by the claims processor—First Canadian Health Management Corporation Inc. (FCH). The principles guiding the price file are the following: If an item is listed on both a provincial formulary and the NIHB

Policy Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
		even though the current prices available may be lower or higher when the product is dispensed. Incentives for prompt payment (payment within 15 days up to a maximum of 2%) will not be included in the calculation AAC is subject to the following conditions: The provider shall make every effort to purchase each drug product from the supplier providing the lowest AAC; and The provider shall make every effort to purchase the drug most reasonably purchased to obtain the lowest AAC	exists and the manufacturer is defined as being direct, the cost is based upon the manufacturer's net catalogue price. If there is no MAC and the manufacturer is not defined as direct, the cost is based upon the manufacturer's net catalogue price plus a mark-up to a maximum of 13.5%.	(c) List price + 15% for all other indirect companies. (d) For generically interchangeabl e products the defined cost is published.		benefits list (DBL), NIHB pays the same If an item is unique to NIHB, the Program will pay according to the price list of a national wholesaler. Exceptions exist in Atlantic Canada and Quebec

Policy Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Coordination	N/A	The Department reserves the right to reduce the ingredient cost of claims if the average cost for any drug exceeds provincial weighted average cost See Eligibility—	N/A	• L—Private	For all Yukon	When beneficiary is
of benefits (Public/ Private)		Beneficiary Group above for co- ordination of benefits		insurer must be billed first. Government will pay the balance provided it does not exceed the cost Government would have paid if there was no private insurance. N — When beneficiaries are eligible for both plans they can bill NLPDP for what is not paid by their private insurance	government plans: Residents must access private insurance plans first	covered by another private health care plan, claims must be submitted to them first.
Coordination of benefits (Intra-jurisdic- tionally)	N/A	See Eligibility— Beneficiary Group above for co- ordination of benefits	N/A	E—Beneficiaries can not access this plan if they are eligible for a federal plan, or if they do, the	 Residents must access all other drug insurance plans first Coordination between Yukon 	When beneficiary is covered by another public health care plan, claims must be submitted to them first.

Policy Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
				Plan E card would be limited to only cover the %/\$ not covered by the Federal Plan • L—Residents who are already covered under plan E or N are not eligible for coverage under this plan. • N—Other Federal public plans are to be used before this plan	government plans: Children who are eligible for Chronic Disease program will use that plan before Children's Drug and Optical plan	
Restricted Benefit Process	Written requests for individuals who are Program beneficiaries must be sent to the New Brunswick Prescription Drug Special Authorization (SA) Unit SA Part A: Requests for drugs not having defined criteria are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. SA Part B: Requests for drugs listed in the appendix are reviewed individually according to defined criteria.	To request coverage, the physician should mail or fax a completed Standard Request Form or letter to the Pharmacare office. Physicians may also contact the Pharmacare office and speak directly to a pharmacist consultant to request coverage. Every effort is made to process requests within 7 days. A letter notifies clients if the	 Prescribers may apply for EDS coverage by mailing or faxing a completed Exceptional Drug Request Allow two to four weeks for the processing of Exceptional Drug Requests A letter will be sent notifying the patient, prescriber, and the pharmacy authorized to provide the 	A special authorization request form has been prepared at the request of pharmacists and physicians, which may be used to facilitate the approval process. While staff of the Division try to accommodate verbal requests where possible, requests are assessed in the order received (fax, mail or verbal) and must be subject to a review of the	Application Process Yukon physicians only may apply for Exception Drug Status. Applications must be submitted in writing Criteria for Exception drugs: Refer to "Exception Drug Status Table" Initial 30 DAY Approval When an Exception drug	There are four types of limited use benefits: • Limited use benefits, which do not require prior approval. • Limited use benefits, which require prior approval (using the "Limited Use Drugs Request Form"). • Benefits with an exception status, which require prior approval (using the "Benefit")

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		request is approved. Clients may bring this letter to the pharmacy to verify that coverage has been approved or the pharmacist may simply bill the claim on-line for immediate response for a limited list of products. The physician is notified if coverage is authorized, if the request is refused because the criteria for coverage are not met, or if more information is required.	requested medication, if coverage has been approved If the request is denied, letters are sent to the patient and prescriber notifying them of the reason for the denial. Payment of the medication is the responsibility of the patient in these cases If the request is approved, patients may be reimbursed for one fill of the prescription received during the assessment period, after all of the requested information has been received	patient's medication claims summary. The use of the form, while not mandatory, is encouraged to expedite the approval process.	is prescribed the pharmacist may request a 30-day approval. The pharmacist must phone the respective drug program advising that the patient is active the Exception drug will be covered for 30 days providing the drug is listed in the Formulary. If the drug requires a "specialist recommendation" according the products criteria, the 30-day coverage will not be granted unless the specialist information is provided	Exception Questionnaire") Benefits, which have a quantity and frequency limit Upon receipt of a prescription for a Limited Use Drug or a non-listed drug, the pharmacist must initiate the prior approval process by calling the Health Canada NIHB Drug Exception Centre. A benefit analyst will request prescriber and client information. An electronically generated Exception or Limited Use Drugs Request Form will be immediately faxed, if possible, to the prescribing physician. The physician will complete and return the form using the toll-free fax number indicated on

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Reimburseme nt Policy	If a beneficiary pays out of pocket, he/she	• D —If beneficiary paid cash at the	If a beneficiary has	• E—Can only submit under	When beneficiaries pay	the Form. The Drug Exception Centre will review the information and the pharmacist will be notified of the decision by fax. If approved, the provider should retain this faxed confirmation for billing purposes. Submissions for retroactive
THE POLICY	may submit the claim for coverage if it is a benefit product and was purchased at a pharmacy within New Brunswick.	paid cash at the pharmacy they have up to 90 days to send receipts to Pharmacare for reimbursement. In province claims only • S—If beneficiary paid cash at the pharmacy they have up to 90 days to send receipts to Pharmacare for reimbursement. In province claims only, Seniors only	pharmacy they have 90 days to submit their receipts for reimbursement.	exceptional circumstances. Out of province bills are only considered if the patient is referred out of province for medical reasons and approval must be obtained prior to leaving the province • L— The program only applies to benefits obtained within the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. • N—For medications purchased in province only	out of pocket, receipts may be submitted for reimbursement if eligible under program. Receipts will be assessed using Formulary	coverage must be received by FNIHB on an NIHB Client Reimbursement Request Form, within one year from the date of service or date of purchase. The regional office assesses appropriateness of claim and acts accordingly. The vast majority of the claims are paid directly on line to the pharmacist via electronic transactions.

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Miscellaneous	Quantitative limits have been established for a number of products listed as benefits of the NBPDP.	Prescription Quantities 100 days supply maximum, if prescribed.	Program Maximum Allowable Days Supply Nursing Home Program: 35 days Institutional Pharmacy Program: 35 days AIDS/HIV Program: 60 days Children-In-Care Program: 30 days— regular drugs, 60 days— maintenance drugs. Note: Prescriptions introducing a medication, strength, dosage, or dosage form shall be filled for a maximum 30 days for the first two prescriptions or refills Cystic Fibrosis Program: 60 days		Prescription Quantities The respective drug programs will not pay for more than a three-month supply of benefits at one time. There must be an interval of 75 days between dispensing 3-month supplies Physicians shall exercise their professional judgment in determining the course and duration of treatment for their patients	Prescription Quantities The normal quantity dispensed shall be the entire quantity of the drug prescribed. A maximum 100- day supply should be considered for those circumstances where the patient has been stabilized on a medication and the prescriber feels that further adjustment during the prescribed period is unlikely. The physician may continue to prescribe a smaller quantity with repeats at certain intervals when it is in the patient's best interest

Policy						
Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Information			 Diabetes 			
			Control			
			Program:			
			30 days-			
			insulin,			
			90 days-oral			
			medications			
			and test strips.			
			Note:			
			Prescriptions			
			introducing a			
			medication,			
			strength,			
			dosage, or			
			dosage form			
			shall be filled			
			for a maximum			
			30 days for the			
			first two			
			prescriptions or refills			
			Family Health			
			Benefit			
			Program:			
			30 days—			
			regular drugs,			
			60 days—			
			maintenance			
			drugs,			
			30 days—drugs			
			under EDS			
			coverage. Note:			
			Prescriptions			
			introducing a			
			medication,			
			strength,			
			dosage, or			
			dosage form			
			shall be filled			

Policy Related	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	for a maximum 30 days for the first two prescriptions or refills Financial Assistance Program: 30 days— regular drugs, 60 days— maintenance drugs, 30 days—drugs under EDS coverage. Note: Prescriptions introducing a medication, strength, dosage, or dosage form shall be filled for a maximum 30 days for the first two prescriptions or refills Growth Hormone Program: 30 days Hepatitis Program: 30 days Intron A Program: 30 days	N.L.	Y.1.	FNIHB
			00 4475			

Policy Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
			Multiple			
			Sclerosis Drug			
			Program:			
			30 days			
			Phenylkentonuri			
			a Program:			
			60 days • Rheumatic			
			Fever Program:			
			60 days			
			 Seniors Drug 			
			Cost Assistance			
			Plan: 30 days—			
			regular drugs,			
			90 days-			
			maintenance			
			drugs,			
			30 days-drugs			
			under EDS			
			coverage. Note:			
			Prescriptions			
			introducing a			
			medication,			
			strength,			
			dosage, or			
			dosage form			
			shall be filled			
			for a maximum 30 days for the			
			first two			
			prescriptions			
			or refills			
			Transplant			
			Drugs Program:			
			60 days			
			Tuberculosis			
			Drug Program:			
			60 days			

Policy Related Information	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	N.L.	Y.T.	FNIHB
Sources	For more information: New Brunswick Prescription Drug	For more information: Nova Scotia Drug	For more information: Prince Edward	For more information: Newfoundland	For more information: Yukon Health and	For more information: Non-Insured Health
	Program	Programs and Funding — Pharmacare	Island Drug Program	and Labrador Prescription Drug Program	Social Services	Benefits