



BC PharmaCare Newsletter

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BC SMOKING CESSATION PROGRAM—UPCOMING CHANGES

On **January 1, 2016**, three changes to the BC Smoking Cessation Program will come into effect.

1. Changes to the Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) Products Available Under the Program

As of January 1, 2016, the brand of NRTs available under the program will be Nicorette®/Nicoderm®. PharmaCare is pleased to announce that lozenges and inhalers will be included as NRT options under the program.

BC Smoking Cessation Program NRTs as of January 1, 2016				
Product Name	Type	Strength	Pack Size	Natural Product Number (NPN)
Nicorette	gum *	2 mg	105	2091933
Nicorette	gum *	4 mg	105	2091941
Nicorette	lozenge	2 mg	88	2247347
Nicorette	lozenge	4 mg	88	2247348
Nicoderm	patch	7 mg	7	2093111
Nicoderm	patch	14 mg	7	2093138
Nicoderm	patch	21 mg	7	2093146
Nicorette	inhaler	10 mg	42	2241742

*Nicorette gum flavours: Cinnamon, Extreme Chill Menthol, Fresh Fruit, Fresh Mint, Ice Mint.

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The use of PharmaNet is not intended as a substitute for professional judgement.
Information on PharmaNet is not exhaustive and cannot be relied upon as complete.

The absence of a warning about a drug or drug combination is not an indication that the drug or drug combination is safe, appropriate or effective for any given patient.
Health care professionals should confirm information obtained from PharmaNet, and ensure no additional relevant information exists, before making patient care decisions.

Information on what constitutes a course of treatment for each of these NRT products will be included in our year-end newsletter scheduled for publication later this month.

2. Changes to Access/Distribution of Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRTs)

Starting January 1, 2016, NRTs covered by the BC Smoking Cessation Program will be available only through pharmacies. As a result, patients will no longer need to call HealthLinkBC (8-1-1) for a registration number. Instead, the patient and pharmacist must sign a [Declaration and Notification form \(HLTH 5464\)](#) for each fill dispensed.

On the declaration form, the patient confirms their eligibility for the program; the pharmacist confirms the item dispensed and that PharmaNet has been updated with the patient's address and phone number.

A supply of blank declaration forms will be mailed to B.C. pharmacies before January 1, 2016.

New Procedure for Dispensing BC Smoking Cessation Program NRTs

1. Confirm in PharmaNet that the patient has received no more than two previous NRT fills in the current calendar year. If the patient has three fills under the program for the current year, explain to them that they have used up their coverage for the current year.

You must check PharmaNet rather than your local pharmacy system since a patient may have had NRTs dispensed through a different pharmacy. These fills count towards the total allowable for the patient.

2. Ensure that the BC Smoking Cessation Program [Declaration and Notification form \(HLTH 5464\)](#) is fully completed (that is, ensure all required fields are completed and that both you and the patient have signed the form).

A declaration form must be signed for each NRT fill or refill. Claims without a corresponding signed declaration are subject to recovery upon audit.

*To ensure declaration forms can be provided to onsite auditors immediately upon their arrival, we recommend that you keep the declaration forms in a separate file for each year, in order of the patient's name, then **chronologically**.*

Claims without signed declaration forms are subject to recovery.

3. Enter the fill as a new prescription (not a refill).
4. Enter the Natural Product Number (NPN).
5. Enter your pharmacist College ID in the **Practitioner ID** field.
6. Enter the number of units dispensed in the **Dispensed Quantity** field (i.e., the number of pieces of gum/lozenges, number of patches/inhalers).
7. Enter the drug cost and dispensing fee. Do not add GST to either the drug cost or the dispensing fee.
8. Submit the claim.

If the claim is rejected by PharmaNet, the patient's coverage allowance may have been exceeded or the individual may not have MSP coverage. You can contact the PharmaNet HelpDesk to confirm the reason for claim rejection.

9. Affix either a second copy of the prescription label to the declaration form in the space provided or attach a copy of your pharmacy's prescription hardcopy.



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3. Declaration Form now required for Prescription Smoking Cessation Drugs

A same declaration form required for NRTs must be completed for each fill of prescription smoking cessation drugs under the program. The declaration form records a patient's acknowledgement that they may be contacted by PharmaCare for the purpose of program evaluation or planning. It also affirms that the pharmacist has met the obligation to ensure that a patient's PharmaNet record is current, including the patient's address and telephone number.

New Procedure for Dispensing Prescription Smoking Cessation Drugs

1. Follow the usual procedure, checking for previous coverage of NRTs or prescription smoking cessation drug coverage within the current calendar year—and, if necessary, for Special Authority approval for an extended course of treatment.
2. If the patient is eligible, ensure that the [Declaration and Notification form \(HLTH 5464\)](#) is fully completed (that is, ensure all required fields are completed and that both you and the patient have signed the form).

A declaration form must be signed for each prescription smoking cessation drug fill or refill. Claims without a corresponding signed declaration are subject to recovery upon audit.

*To ensure declaration forms can be provided to onsite auditors immediately upon their arrival, we recommend that you keep the declaration forms in a separate file for each year, in order of the patient's name, then **chronologically**.*

Claims without signed declaration forms are subject to recovery.

3. Submit the claim in PharmaNet.
4. Affix either a second copy of the prescription label to the declaration form in the space provided or attach a copy of your pharmacy's prescription hardcopy.

Dispensing NRTs or Prescription Smoking Cessation Drugs to Ineligible Patients

For patients who are ineligible and wish to pay privately for NRTs, dispense NRTs over the counter.

For patients who are ineligible and wish to pay privately for prescription smoking cessation drugs, submit the claim with the intervention code **DE – Adjudicate to \$.00 as requested** to prevent PharmaCare coverage.

Advising the Patient about Subsequent Fills

As usual, if a patient has refills remaining, remind them to wait two weeks before re-ordering. This ensures their refill is within the limit of the [Refilling Prescriptions Too Soon](#) policy.

When Will the Policy Manual be Updated?

The policy manual will be updated on January 1, 2016. Our web pages for [patients](#), [pharmacists](#) and [prescribers](#) contain a notice about the changes. On January 1, 2016, our website will be fully updated to reflect the program changes.