

## Patients whose coverage is not affected by the Modernized Reference Drug Program (RDP)

Many patients currently taking an RDP drug will not be affected by Modernization of the RDP, including:

- Patients already taking a drug that will remain, or become, fully covered under the Modernized RDP.
- Patients who do not rely on PharmaCare coverage (e.g., those with private drug coverage) and/or those who choose to remain on their current drug even if it is not fully covered under the Modernized RDP.
- Pre-identified patients (as described below) who are taking a drug that would not normally be fully covered under the Modernized RDP but for whom full coverage will be continued.

### Patients pre-identified for continued full coverage

Four groups of patients have been pre-identified using prescription data from PharmaNet (the system that tracks all prescriptions dispensed at B.C. community pharmacies). **Coverage will continue unchanged for these patients.**

#### Group 1

- Patients taking two or more drugs that are fully covered under the Original RDP that would be only partially covered under the Modernized RDP.

These patients do not need to switch any of the RDP drugs they are taking to retain full PharmaCare coverage.

#### Group 2

- Patients with current Special Authority approval for a drug in any of the following RDP categories:
  - Histamine2 receptor blockers (H2 blockers)
  - Dihydropyridine calcium channel blockers (CCBs)
  - Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEIs)

These patients do not need to switch the RDP drug they are taking to retain full PharmaCare coverage.

#### Group 3

Patients who already have:

- Special Authority approval for full coverage of rabeprazole or pantoprazole magnesium, **or**
- Special Authority approval for full coverage of a PPI *other* than rabeprazole or pantoprazole magnesium.

*Note: If the Special Authority for another PPI was through a specialty exemption, PharmaNet must also indicate the patient has had rabeprazole or pantoprazole magnesium dispensed in the past.*

These patients do not need to switch the RDP drug they are taking to retain full PharmaCare coverage.

#### Group 4

- Patients with renal failure.
- Patients with heart failure who are currently receiving full coverage of an ACEI or ARB that otherwise would be only partially covered under the Modernized RDP.

**Important:** There may be heart or renal failure patients PharmaCare was unable to identify from available data. In these cases, prescribers can submit a Special Authority request if they believe it is inappropriate to modify the patient's drug therapy.

These patients do not need to switch the RDP drug they are taking to retain full PharmaCare coverage.