



# BC PharmaCare Newsletter

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## NEW COVERAGE FOR NICOTINE REPLACEMENT THERAPIES — PATCHES AND GUM

On May 9, 2011, [Premier Christy Clark announced](#) that, starting **September 30, 2011**, the province would make nicotine replacement therapies (NRTs) available to all British Columbian smokers at no cost.

In response to this commitment, the Ministry of Health held a competition for the exclusive supply of NRT patch and gum products for use in the B.C. Smoking Cessation Program.

Following the successful completion of this competition, the Ministry of Health is pleased to announce that, effective **September 30, 2011**, PharmaCare will cover the following NRT patches and gum as Limited Coverage benefits:

### Nicotine Replacement Patches

PIN	PRODUCT NAME (TYPE)	PACK SIZE	LIST PRICE	LIST PLUS 8% MARK UP
66124874	Habitrol® (patch) 7 mg	7	\$2.68	\$2.8944
66124876	Habitrol® (patch) 14 mg	7	\$2.68	\$2.8944
66124878	Habitrol® (patch) 21 mg	7	\$2.68	\$2.8944

The use of PharmaNet is not intended as a substitute for professional judgment.  
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 in any given patient. Health care professionals should confirm information obtained from PharmaNet, and ensure no additional relevant information exists, before making patient care decisions.

**Nicotine Replacement Gum**

PIN	PRODUCT NAME	FLAVOUR	PACK SIZE	LIST PRICE	LIST PLUS 8% MARK UP
66124880	Thrive™ (gum) 2 mg	Cool mint	108	\$0.202	\$0.2182
66124882	Thrive™ (gum) 4 mg	Cool mint	108	\$0.264	\$0.2851

PharmaCare will not be covering any other brands of nicotine replacement therapy gums or patches, or any other nicotine replacement therapy products as part of the B.C. Smoking Cessation Program.

The listed products will, subject to treatment course limits, be 100% covered for eligible B.C. residents and will be available by direct mail from the Province or through community pharmacies.

Since these are the only nicotine replacement therapy gums and patches that PharmaCare will cover, pharmacies may want to assess their current stock levels for these products. Orders for these products can be placed with pharmacy distributors in the usual way.

The maximum that pharmacies can claim from PharmaCare for the above products is the list price, plus the 8% mark-up and the maximum dispensing fee. Pharmacies should note that coverage for the above products under this plan is not income tested and therefore, there are no deductibles to be reached prior to a patient becoming eligible for reimbursement or for the Full Payment Policy to apply. As a reminder, under the Full Payment Policy, pharmacies must not charge a 'co-payment' to patients who are receiving full coverage under a PharmaCare plan.

Full details about coverage, eligibility, program policies and procedures will be communicated in an upcoming PharmaCare Newsletter.

**Need simple Fair PharmaCare information for your patients?**

**PATIENT INFORMATION SHEETS**

The PharmaCare website offers four easy-to-understand information sheets about the Fair PharmaCare plan:

- General Fair PharmaCare Plan Information
- Fair PharmaCare Information for New Residents
- Fair PharmaCare & Income Reviews
- The Monthly Deductible Payment Option

**New!** Available in **English, French, Punjabi, Chinese, Farsi, Korean and Vietnamese.**



Find them in the **Publications** section of the PharmaCare website under the **Patient Information Sheets** heading on [www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/publications.html](http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/publications.html).

We hope you find these useful in responding to enquiries.