



BC PharmaCare Newsletter

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QuickLinks

2014/15 Provincial Influenza Campaign	1
Prosthetic/Orthotic Program	2
Applications for Financial Assistance for 2014 Benefit Year	2
Important Information for Your Patients.....	2
Drug Supply Issues Related to Health Canada Import Ban	3
Changes to Blood Glucose Test Strip Coverage Process & Provisional Coverage.....	3
Reminder—PharmaCare Policy on Inducements.....	4
Possible Payment Delay.....	4
PharmaCare Policy Manual Update—Response and Intervention codes	5
New Special Authority Web Section	5
Benefits.....	5
Low Cost Alternative Program Changes—Update	5

2014/15 PROVINCIAL INFLUENZA CAMPAIGN

Pharmacists are invited to participate in the 2014/15 Provincial Influenza Campaign. Pharmacists authorized to administer immunizations will receive \$10 for each publicly funded vaccine administered by injection to an eligible B.C. resident.

The 2014/15 campaign will officially launch in **November 2014**. Vaccine may, however, be available before that date, depending on the health authority. Pharmacists may offer publicly funded influenza vaccine to eligible B.C. residents as soon as it becomes available in their community.

Please note: Before you offer or advertise influenza vaccine and services for private purchase by an individual, you should screen the patient and, if they are eligible, offer them publicly funded influenza vaccine.

If an eligible B.C. resident asks for publicly funded influenza vaccine and you are unable to fulfill their request, you must inform the patient where publicly funded vaccine services are available.

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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.

2014/15 PROVINCIAL INFLUENZA CAMPAIGN, CONTINUED...

The publicly funded vaccines available to pharmacists this year are:

PIN	Vaccine
66124873	AGRIFLU® (Novartis)
66124872	FLUAD® (Novartis)
66124765	FLUVIRAL® (GSK)

Pharmacists can place orders for the vaccines listed above through their local health units. Procedures may vary by health authority. Please contact your local health unit or health authority website for more details.

Note: A fourth publicly funded influenza vaccine, **FluMist®**, is available for administration only at physician and public health clinics.

More information is available from the following resources:

- [Seasonal Influenza Vaccine – 2014/15 Provincial Influenza Campaign](#)
- [2014/15 Provincial Influenza Campaign - Vaccine Comparison Chart](#)
- [Product Identification Numbers \(PINs\)](#) for Publicly Funded Vaccine Administration
- [BCCDC Immunization Manual, Section VII—Biological Products](#)
- [Immunize BC](#)

PROSTHETIC/ORTHOTIC PROGRAM

Applications for Financial Assistance for 2014 Benefit Year

For patients to receive coverage under the PharmaCare Prosthetic and Orthotic Program, prosthetic and orthotic health care providers must obtain **pre-approval**, on behalf of their patient, for any claim of \$400 or more.

To facilitate the pre-approval process and allow sufficient time for you to make and dispense the device before the end of the 2014 benefit year, PharmaCare requests that all applications be received before **November 14, 2014**.

Application forms are available on the PharmaCare website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/suppliers.html. Please fax completed applications to HIBC at **250-405-3590**.

Submitting applications as soon as possible is particularly important for 2014 claims as, due to the timing of holidays this year, **there will be no Prosthetic & Orthotic Committee meeting on December 26, 2014**.

Important Information for Your Patients

Patients who do not receive approval in time to be covered in 2014—or who do not receive their products before December 31, 2014—may be interested in the **Monthly Deductible Payment Option**.

This option allows a person or family who expects to meet or exceed their annual Fair PharmaCare deductible to pay part of their deductible cost each month and get help with their prescription/medical supply costs right away. This can help your patients with costs early in the year.

A patient information sheet is available at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/pdf/FPC04.pdf.

Note: All families who need Fair PharmaCare Plan coverage must register before their claim is processed. Claims submitted before a patient has active Fair PharmaCare coverage cannot be covered. The patient, or patient's private insurer, will have to pay the full cost without assistance from PharmaCare.

DRUG SUPPLY ISSUES RELATED TO HEALTH CANADA IMPORT BAN

Current Situation

Health Canada has banned the import of certain drug products from three manufacturing sites in India, namely:

- Apotex Pharmachem India PVT LTD,
- Apotex Research Private Limited, and
- IPCA Laboratories.

Health Canada has indicated that the import ban is due to data collection and reporting issues at these manufacturing sites.

See Health Canada's public notification at <http://healthy Canadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2014/41655a-eng.php> and the list of products affected by the import ban at www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/compli-conform/info-prod/drugs-drogu es/api-ipa-eng.php.

In its notification, Health Canada advises that no specific safety issues have been identified with products currently on the market that are included in the list of banned drug products. Health Canada has not issued a recall of any of these products.

Action Plan for Possible Supply Disruptions

Supply disruptions may occur with specific products as the Health Canada import ban continues.

As a result:

- Drug wholesalers and drug manufacturers are putting stock protection systems in place (also known as being "on allocation") to prevent stockpiling of selected products and ensure efficient distribution.
- BC PharmaCare is actively monitoring the situation and is prepared, as usual, to provide temporary coverage for product alternatives if a shortage occurs. As is currently the case, pharmacists will be notified that PharmaCare is providing temporary coverage for an alternate product.
- If pharmacists have confirmed a shortage with their drug wholesaler and PharmaCare has not provided temporary coverage for a product alternative, **pharmacists** are asked to contact the PharmaNet HelpDesk.
- The public and pharmacists are reminded to avoid stockpiling of drugs and order only enough stock for normal use.
- The Ministry of Health will continue to work with Health Canada, other provinces and territories, and health authorities to manage the supply disruption. A province-wide process has been developed to deal with shortages throughout the health system as they arise.

CHANGES TO BLOOD GLUCOSE TEST STRIP COVERAGE PROCESS & PROVISIONAL COVERAGE

Changes in Eligibility Process

What is changing?

- The Ministry of Health now maintains a Master List of both Ministry-accredited Diabetes Education Centres (DECs) and DECs associated with a provincial health authority (HA). These DECs have been assigned a specific PharmaCare DEC Code.
- The blood glucose training confirmation certificate and wallet card have been revised.
- **Effective Nov 1, 2014**, only these forms will be accepted (see below for more information).

Continued...

CHANGES TO BLOOD GLUCOSE TEST STRIP COVERAGE, CONTINUED...

How will the process be different?

- When training is complete, the DEC will:
 - Fax a **Confirmation of Training in Blood Glucose Monitoring** form to HIBC. HIBC will then update PharmaNet with the patient's eligibility information.
 - Give the patient a **Blood Glucose Test Strip — Coverage Voucher** (wallet card) that they can present to their pharmacy as a one-time voucher for provisional coverage of blood glucose test strips if their permanent eligibility has not yet been entered in PharmaNet.
- Pharmacies must fax **both sides** of the Coverage Voucher to HIBC on the same day for provisional coverage to be granted.

Grace Period

- Until October 31, 2014, both the original wallet card and the Coverage Voucher card will be accepted (with or without the DEC Code specified), provided they are **signed** and the DEC is included on the Master List.
- As of November 1, 2014, **only** the new forms, with all mandatory fields completed (including DEC Code), will be accepted.

Increase in Provisional Coverage

Effective November 1, 2014, PharmaCare will increase provisional coverage* from \$75 to \$100 for patients who present a Coverage Voucher at a pharmacy and whose permanent coverage has not yet been entered in PharmaNet.

*Coverage is subject to the rules of a patient's regular PharmaCare plan, including any annual deductible requirement.

REMINDER—PHARMACARE POLICY ON INDUCEMENTS

Please note that since July 4, 2011, the Ministry of Health has not allowed pharmacies to offer inducements on costs paid by BC PharmaCare.

This policy does not apply to costs paid by private insurers. Each insurer decides if its clients can earn rewards on costs their company covers.

Pharmacies can offer rewards only if they clearly identify, and limit the reward to, the portion the customer pays. For example, if PharmaCare pays \$70 of a \$100 prescription, the pharmacy can offer rewards on the \$30 that the customer pays.

POSSIBLE PAYMENT DELAY

Please be advised that the BC Government's Corporate Accounting System (CAS) is scheduled to be upgraded between October 10 and October 20, 2014. CAS facilitates all of government's spending and revenue transactions, including the weekly PharmaCare payments to community pharmacies. PharmaCare has worked with CAS administrators to put measures in place to ensure regularly scheduled pharmacy payments are not disrupted while the upgrade occurs. However, please be aware that there remains a slight risk that payments scheduled for October 14 and October 21 may be delayed by a day or two.

Thank you for your understanding.

PHARMACARE POLICY MANUAL UPDATE—RESPONSE AND INTERVENTION CODES

The [PharmaCare Policy Manual \(www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/generalinfo/policy/index.html\)](http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/generalinfo/policy/index.html) now includes updated appendices as follows:

- [Appendix A](#)—PharmaNet Adjudication Response Codes
- [Appendix B](#)—PharmaNet Intervention and Exception Codes

NEW SPECIAL AUTHORITY WEB SECTION

If you have recently visited the [Special Authority](#) section of the PharmaCare website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/sa/saindex.html, you may have noticed some changes.

The section now provides a single, sortable list of all Special Authority drugs with direct links to criteria pages with the detailed criteria, forms and other information. The list can be sorted by generic name, brand name, or Special Authority category (such as Limited Coverage Drugs, Reference Drug Program, or Low Cost Alternative Program).

The information has also been simplified for ease of use by patients and health care practitioners.

Generic Drug Name	Brand Drug Name	Special Authority Category
abatacept for juvenile idiopathic arthritis	Orencia®	LCD
abatacept for rheumatoid arthritis	Orencia®	LCD
acamprosate	Campral®	LCD
acetaminophen 500 mg	Tylenol 500 mg®	LCD
acridinium	Tudorza™ Genuair™	LCD
adalimumab for ankylosing spondylitis	Humira®	LCD
adalimumab for Crohn's disease	Humira®	LCD
adalimumab for polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis	Humira®	LCD
adalimumab for psoriasis	Humira®	LCD
adalimumab for psoriatic arthritis	Humira®	LCD

BENEFITS

Low Cost Alternative Program Changes—Update

As announced in the [September 4, 2014](#), PharmaCare newsletter, new products that meet the Drug Price Regulation target prices are now available and will be covered under the LCA Program.

The announcement also stated that effective October 4, 2014, all generic clopidogrel, olanzapine and donepezil drugs, except Accel products would be delisted. However, new information later surfaced regarding generic Accel-clopidogrel and Accel-olanzapine.

PharmaCare conducted a thorough review of the new information and, in order to maintain the integrity and consistency of its drug pricing policies, regulations and processes, PharmaCare has decided to continue coverage of the previously covered generic versions of clopidogrel and olanzapine. (Please refer to Table 1). Accel-clopidogrel and Accel-olanzapine will also be delisted effective November 2, 2014. PharmaCare sincerely apologizes for any inconveniences this may cause pharmacies and patients. There will be no change in the decision to list Accel-donepezil and to delist the other generic versions of donepezil.

Table 1 – Continuation of Coverage of Generic Products – Effective October 2, 2014

DIN / PIN	Chemical Description	Product Name
2252767	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	APO-CLOPIDOGREL
2416387	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	AURO-CLOPIDOGREL
2293161	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	TEVA-CLOPIDOGREL
2303027	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	CO CLOPIDOGREL

DIN / PIN	Chemical Description	Product Name
2348004	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	PMS-CLOPIDOGREL
2351536	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	MYLAN-CLOPIDOGREL
2359316	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	SANDOZ CLOPIDOGREL
2379813	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	RAN-CLOPIDOGREL
2385813	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	CLOPIDOGREL
2400553	CLOPIDOGREL TAB 75MG	CLOPIDOGREL
2276747	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	TEVA-OLANZAPINE
2281821	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	APO-OLANZAPINE
2303175	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	PMS-OLANZAPINE
2307448	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	PHL-OLANZAPINE
2310384	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	SANDOZ OLANZAPINE
2325683	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	CO OLANZAPINE
2337908	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	MYLAN-OLANZAPINE
2348144	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	OLANZAPINE
2372843	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	OLANZAPINE
2403099	OLANZAPINE TAB 10MG	RAN-OLANZAPINE
2276755	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	TEVA-OLANZAPINE
2281848	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	APO-OLANZAPINE
2303183	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	PMS-OLANZAPINE
2307456	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	PHL-OLANZAPINE
2310392	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	SANDOZ OLANZAPINE
2325691	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	CO OLANZAPINE
2337916	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	MYLAN-OLANZAPINE
2348152	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	OLANZAPINE
2372851	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	OLANZAPINE
2403102	OLANZAPINE TAB 15MG	RAN-OLANZAPINE
2276712	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	TEVA-OLANZAPINE
2281791	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	APO-OLANZAPINE
2303116	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	PMS-OLANZAPINE
2307405	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	PHL-OLANZAPINE
2310341	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	SANDOZ OLANZAPINE
2325659	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	CO OLANZAPINE
2337878	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	MYLAN-OLANZAPINE
2348101	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	OLANZAPINE
2372819	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	OLANZAPINE
2385864	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	OLANZAPINE
2403064	OLANZAPINE TAB 2.5MG	RAN-OLANZAPINE
2276720	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	TEVA-OLANZAPINE
2281805	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	APO-OLANZAPINE
2303159	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	PMS-OLANZAPINE

DIN / PIN	Chemical Description	Product Name
2307413	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	PHL-OLANZAPINE
2310368	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	SANDOZ OLANZAPINE
2325667	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	CO OLANZAPINE
2337886	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	MYLAN-OLANZAPINE
2348128	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	OLANZAPINE
2372827	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	OLANZAPINE
2403072	OLANZAPINE TAB 5MG	RAN-OLANZAPINE
2276739	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	TEVA-OLANZAPINE
2281813	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	APO-OLANZAPINE
2303167	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	PMS-OLANZAPINE
2307421	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	PHL-OLANZAPINE
2310376	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	SANDOZ OLANZAPINE
2325675	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	CO OLANZAPINE
2337894	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	MYLAN-OLANZAPINE
2348136	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	OLANZAPINE
2372835	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	OLANZAPINE
2385880	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	OLANZAPINE
2403080	OLANZAPINE TAB 7.5MG	RAN-OLANZAPINE

Limited Coverage Drug Program

The following products are eligible benefits under the Limited Coverage Program—by Special Authority only—for Fair PharmaCare and Plans B, C, and F. For the Special Authority criteria, please visit the Special Authority Information page on the PharmaCare website at www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/sa/saindex.html.

DIN	DRUG NAME	PLAN G	PLAN P
02404516	perampanel (Fycompa™) 2 mg tablet	N	N
02404524	perampanel (Fycompa™) 4 mg tablet	N	N
02404532	perampanel (Fycompa™) 6 mg tablet	N	N
02404540	perampanel (Fycompa™) 8 mg tablet	N	N
02404559	perampanel (Fycompa™) 10 mg tablet	N	N
02404567	perampanel (Fycompa™) 12 mg tablet	N	N
02378604	rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) 15 mg tablet for pulmonary embolism	N	N
02378612	rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) 20 mg tablet for pulmonary embolism	N	N
02409720	acridinium bromide (Tudorza™ Genuair™) 400 mcg inhalation powder	N	N
02399091	somatropin (Nutropin AQ® NuSpin® 5) 5 mg/2mL pre-filled cartridge	N	N
02399083	somatropin (Nutropin AQ® NuSpin® 20) 20mg/2mL pre-filled cartridge	N	N
02401703	somatropin (Genotropin®) 5.3 mg GoQuick™ prefilled pen	N	N
02401711	somatropin (Genotropin®) 12 mg GoQuick™ prefilled pen	N	N
02401762	somatropin (Genotropin®) 0.6 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N
02401770	somatropin (Genotropin®) 0.8 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N
02401789	somatropin (Genotropin®) 1.0 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N
02401797	somatropin (Genotropin®) 1.2 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N

DIN	DRUG NAME	PLAN G	PLAN P
02401800	somatropin (Genotropin®) 1.4 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N
02401819	somatropin (Genotropin®) 1.6 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N
02401827	somatropin (Genotropin®) 1.8 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N
02401835	somatropin (Genotropin®) 2.0 mg MiniQuick™ prefilled syringe	N	N

Non-Benefits

The following products have been reviewed and will not be added as benefits under PharmaCare.

DIN	DRUG NAME
02369257	everolimus (Afinitor®) 2.5 mg oral tablet
02339501	everolimus (Afinitor®) 5 mg oral tablet
02339528	everolimus (Afinitor®) 10 mg oral tablet
02397749	azilsartan medoxomil-chlorthalidone (Edarbyclor®) 40 mg/12.5 mg tablet
02397757	azilsartan medoxomil-chlorthalidone (Edarbyclor®) 80 mg/12.5 mg tablet
02397765	azilsartan medoxomil-chlorthalidone (Edarbyclor®) 40 mg/25 mg tablet
02381389	azilsartan medoxomil (Edarbi®) 40 mg tablet
02381397	azilsartan medoxomil (Edarbi®) 80 mg tablet
02387751	lurasidone (Latuda®) 40 mg tablet
02387778	lurasidone (Latuda®) 80 mg tablet
02387786	lurasidone (Latuda®) 120 mg tablets
	Contour® NEXT blood glucose test strips (50 strip count)