



BC PharmaCare Newsletter

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MODERNIZED REFERENCE DRUG PROGRAM—UPDATE

As stated in our [newsletter last month](#), the six month transition to the Modernized Reference Drug Program (RDP) is nearing completion. The Modernized Reference Drug Program (RDP) will be fully implemented on **Dec. 1, 2016**.

Identifying patients who may wish to consider switching

We encourage pharmacists to continue identifying patients who may need to consider switching to a drug that will be fully covered under the Modernized Reference Drug Program as of Dec. 1, 2016. PharmaCare elected not to notify individual patients as it was not possible to identify patients who had already spoken to their prescriber or pharmacist and chosen not to switch, patients who did not rely on PharmaCare coverage, or patients for whom the actual change in the cost of their prescription would be minimal.

Running a patient report

Your pharmacy software may be able to run a report of your patients who are taking a drug that will not be covered, or will be only partially covered, under the RDP as of Dec. 1, 2016. For your convenience, we are providing an [Excel file listing the affected drugs/DINs](#). If you are unsure of how to run such a report, please contact your software vendor.

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.

Information for patients

Additional patient information sheets and supplies of prescription bag stuffers continue to be available through the PharmaNet HelpDesk.

The prescription bag stuffers may be the most convenient for you and for your patients as they are specific to the type of drug your patient is taking.



Training

As the BC Pharmacy Association (BCPhA) communicated in their most recent practice update (Nov. 16, 2016), six BCPhA pharmacist trainers will be contacting pharmacies in regions with a greater concentration of patients on RDP drugs whose coverage may be changing. The trainers can provide approximately one-hour training sessions to pharmacies in those regions to review the details of the Modernized RDP and to answer any questions.

The training sessions are free to the participating pharmacy and trainers will endeavour to book appointment times that are convenient for the pharmacy.

For more information, please contact Bryce Wong at bryce.wong@bcpharmacy.ca.