

Welcome to PharmaCare 101 – Pharmacy Services and Fees



The slide features a yellow background with various pills and capsules scattered across it. A central blue banner contains the title text. At the bottom, there is a white footer area with the British Columbia logo and the name of the division.

Pharmacy Services and Fees

PharmaCare 101

 BRITISH
COLUMBIA

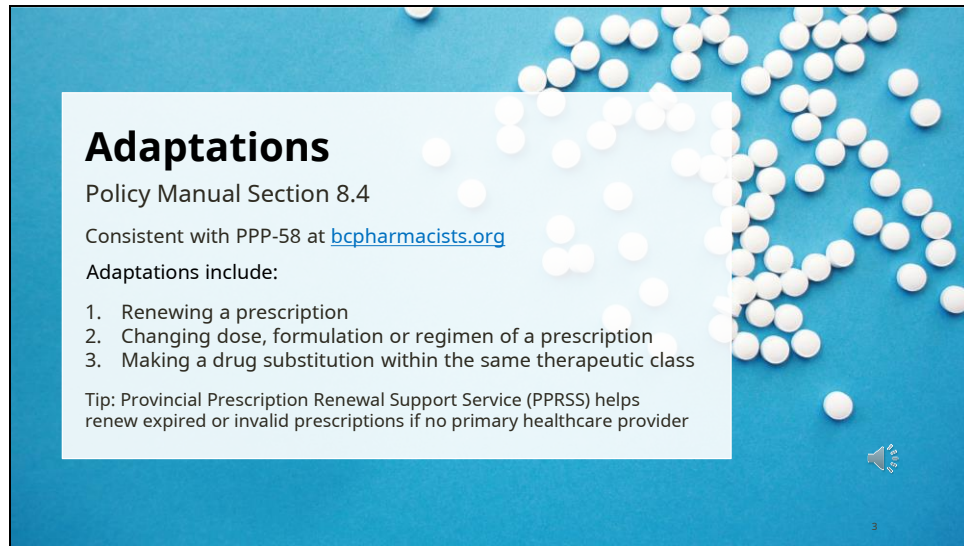
Pharmaceutical, Laboratory & Blood Services Division
Ministry of Health



Dispensing Fee

- Charged for each prescription filled
- PharmaCare covers up to \$10

Pharmacies charge a dispensing fee for each prescription they fill. PharmaCare sets a maximum amount that it will reimburse under its plans. This is currently \$10. Because pharmacies are private businesses, they can charge more than \$10 to dispense and the patient pays the difference, (unless the prescription is covered under a 100 percent paid plan, which we will review later).



Adaptations

Policy Manual Section 8.4

Consistent with PPP-58 at bcpharmacists.org

Adaptations include:

1. Renewing a prescription
2. Changing dose, formulation or regimen of a prescription
3. Making a drug substitution within the same therapeutic class

Tip: Provincial Prescription Renewal Support Service (PPRSS) helps renew expired or invalid prescriptions if no primary healthcare provider

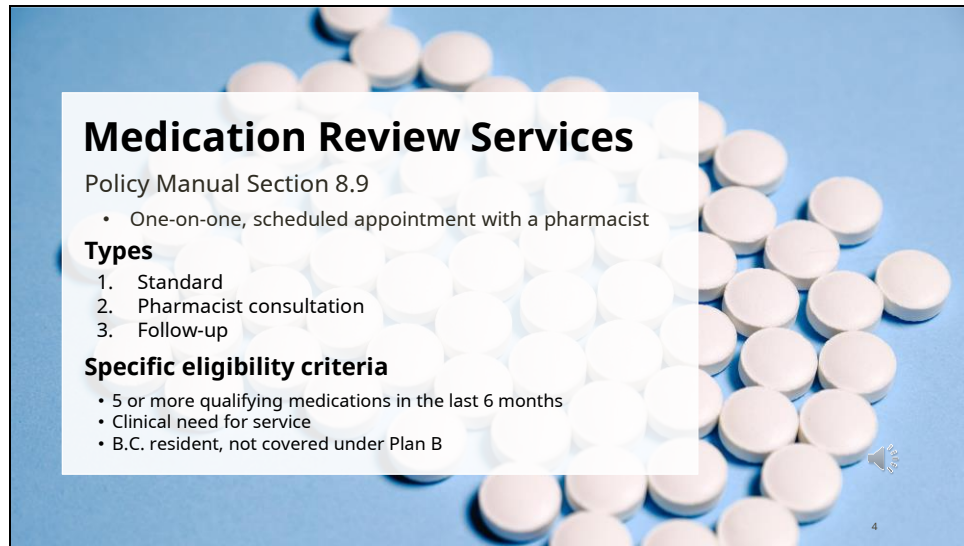
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PharmaCare pays pharmacists a set fee for renewing or changing a prescription. The adaptation must meet criteria set out in the College of Pharmacists of BC's Professional Practice Policy 58. You can see this policy on the College of Pharmacists of BC's website at bcpharmacists.org

Adaptation fees are not dependent on a patient's PharmaCare coverage and do not count towards their deductible or family maximum.

PharmaCare pays a maximum of two clinical services fees per drug, per person, during a six-month period.

Some prescriptions may not meet criteria for pharmacist renewal. The Provincial Prescription Renewal Support Service (or PPRSS) is a resource to help renew expired or invalid prescriptions if the person with the prescription does not have a primary health care provider.



Medication Review Services

Policy Manual Section 8.9

- One-on-one, scheduled appointment with a pharmacist

Types

1. Standard
2. Pharmacist consultation
3. Follow-up

Specific eligibility criteria

- 5 or more qualifying medications in the last 6 months
- Clinical need for service
- B.C. resident, not covered under Plan B

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B.C. pharmacists can claim medication review services they provide to eligible patients. Reviews are for people on five or more qualifying medications, and are meant to identify drug related problems.

There are three types of reviews, and a maximum number per patient per year. More information can be found in Section 8.9 of the PharmaCare Policy Manual.

Medication reviews are free for any B.C. resident that qualifies. Pharmacies may not charge them any amount for a review.



Administration of Drugs and Vaccines

Policy Manual Section 8.10

- Pharmacists trained and authorized to administer many medications
- PharmaCare pays a \$12.10 administration fee for publicly funded vaccines (\$18.00 for COVID-19 vaccines)
- PharmaCare pays \$11.41 for drugs and non-publicly funded vaccines
 - some exceptions; administration may be charged to patient


Pharmacists are authorized to administer many medications. PharmaCare pays a fee of \$12.10 for administering a publicly funded vaccine supplied by Immunize BC (or \$18.00 for COVID-19 vaccines). The list of publicly-funded vaccines is on the PharmaCare website.

PharmaCare pays pharmacists a fee of \$11.41 for administering a drug or non-publicly funded vaccine, with some exceptions, for example insulin and vaccines for travel. In those cases, the administration may be charged to the patient.

Learn more about drug administration fees in Section 8.10 of the PharmaCare Policy Manual.

Minor Ailments and Contraception Service (MACS)


Policy Manual Section 8.14

 The College of Pharmacists of BC put the Standards, Limits and Conditions for making a diagnosis and prescribing into effect on June 1, 2023.

PharmaCare will reimburse pharmacists \$20 for the assessment of patients using the appropriate PIN for each condition.

4 types of PINS:

1. Drug prescribed
2. No drug prescribed
3. Drug prescribed, other HCP advised
4. No drug prescribed, other HCP advised

When filling a prescription written by a pharmacist as part of MACS, enter the **PS – Professional Care Service** intervention code 

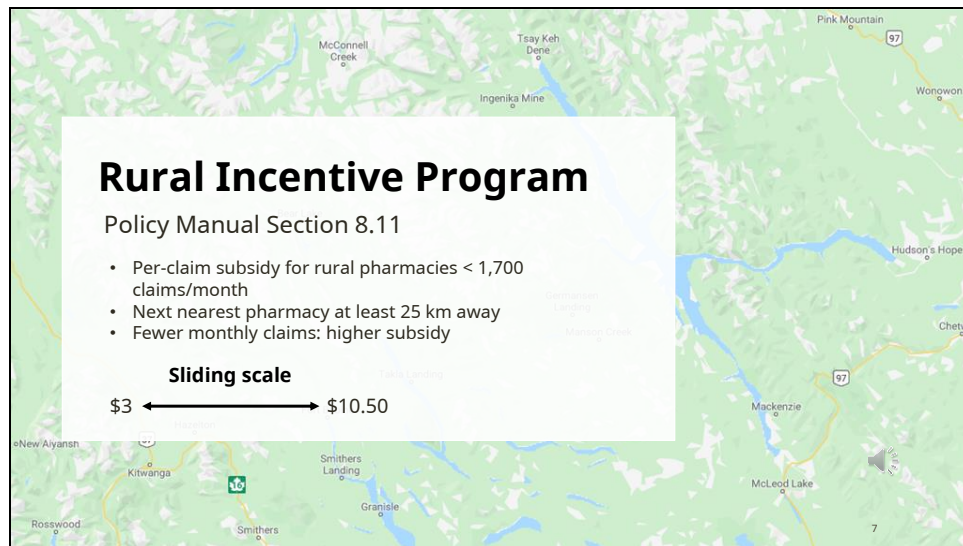
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The College of Pharmacists of BC's Standards, Limits and Conditions for making a diagnosis and prescribing came into effect June 1, 2023. At the same time, PharmaCare implemented a \$20 reimbursement for assessing a patient, through Minor Ailments and Contraception service (MACS) whether or not they issued a prescription.

Pharmacists must complete the PPMAC Regulatory Educational module to provide MACS. UBC's continuing education offers a number of optional MACS courses as well. Pharmacists can assess for 21 minor ailments, as well as for contraception. There are 4 PINs that PharmaCare will reimburse, depending on the outcome of the assessment:

- Schedule 1 drug prescribed
- No schedule 1 drug prescribed (though pharmacist may have recommended a non-prescription treatment)
- Schedule 1 drug prescribed, and person advised to seek care from another healthcare provider (or HCP)
- No prescription given, and person advised to seek care from another healthcare provider

The 'PS' intervention code should be entered in PharmaNet when filling a prescription written by a pharmacist as part of a MACS assessment.



The Rural Incentive Program pays a subsidy to help remote pharmacies stay open.

This program pays the subsidy per PharmaCare-paid claim on a sliding scale. If a pharmacy submits fewer than 1,700 claims per month, they are subsidized \$3 to \$10.50 per claim, depending on the volume of claims.



Thanks for watching this PharmaCare 101 video on Pharmacy Services and Fees. To watch more videos, visit gov.bc.ca/PharmaCare101