

Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care Insurance Division 300 Carlton Street Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3B 3M9

April 14, 2025

Re: Manitoba Enhanced Pharmacare Program (MEPP)

Dear Health Care Provider,

Effective April 15, 2025, the Manitoba Enhanced Pharmacare Program (MEPP) provides eligible Manitoba residents with no cost coverage of most medications for:

- Birth control
- Diabetes
- HIV prevention and treatment
- Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT)

Federal funding for National Pharmacare has been provided to Manitoba in support of no cost coverage of diabetes and birth control medications.

Important information regarding coverage under MEPP:

- Individuals who have an active Manitoba Health Card <u>and</u> are not eligible for 100 per cent coverage through federal or other provincial drug programs are eligible for coverage under MEPP. Clients enrolled in the <u>Manitoba Pharmacare Program</u>, or eligible to enroll in the Manitoba Pharmacare Program, are eligible for MEPP.
- Effective April 15, 2025, no cost coverage of medications for birth control and HIV prevention and treatment will be provided through MEPP. With the establishment of the broader MEPP, the Manitoba Prescription Birth Control Program (MPBCP) and the Manitoba HIV Medications Program (MHMP) have been dissolved.
- A complete list of eligible MEPP medications is available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/profdocs/mepp-drug-list.pdf.
- All current diabetes and HRT medication covered under the Manitoba Pharmacare
 Program will now be covered under MEPP, except Ozempic (semaglutide) which
 remains an Exception Drug Status benefit under the Manitoba Pharmacare Program,
 where deductibles apply. Ozempic was not included in the federal list of
 medications for no-cost coverage for discussion with provinces and territories.
- New Exception Drug Status (EDS) applications are not required for clients who
 have existing EDS coverage. If a client already has EDS approval for their
 medication, the approval has automatically been provided under MEPP, with the
 same expiry date as their previous approval.



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- Part 1 (open) benefits under MEPP are covered no cost regardless of the reason for the prescription; clients must meet established clinical criteria for Part 2 and EDS benefits to be covered at no cost under MEPP.
- Diabetes supplies are not included under MEPP, but will remain benefits under the Manitoba Pharmacare Program, where deductibles apply.
- MEPP covers the cost of eligible products (up to the lowest cost interchangeable product) and a professional fee of up to \$14.

Additional information for health care providers is available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/healthprofessionals.html. Updated or new documents will be posted here.

- CSP MEPP https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/profdocs/csp-mepp.pdf
- Frequently Asked Questions for Health Professionals MEPP https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/profdocs/faq-mepp.pdf
- MEPP Drug List https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/profdocs/mepp-drug-list.pdf

Information for the public will be available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/mepp.html

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility.

Sincerely,

Alan Lawless,

Executive Director

Non-Insured Benefits Branch