Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – Health Care Providers: Manitoba Enhanced Pharmacare Program (MEPP)

Where is information about MEPP for the general public available?
- Information regarding MEPP, including Frequently Asked Questions – for People Living in Manitoba is available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/mepp.html

Do clients with existing Exception Drug Status (EDS) approvals need to re-apply for EDS coverage under MEPP?
- No. Existing EDS approvals have automatically been transferred to client profiles under MEPP.

Are all products covered under MEPP fully covered?
- No. MEPP benefits that are listed on the Manitoba Drug Interchangeability Formulary are covered up to the lowest cost interchangeable product in the category.

Is there a maximum professional fee that a pharmacy may charge under MEPP?
- Yes, pharmacies may charge up to a maximum $14 professional fee for medications dispensed under MEPP, or the pharmacy's Usual and Customary (U&C) Fee, whichever is lower.

Why is the allowable professional fee been reduced (i.e., from a maximum of $30 under the Manitoba Pharmacare Program to a maximum of $14) under MEPP?
- Data on dispensing fees in Manitoba has shown that the average dispensing fee is significantly lower than $30.
- An allowable maximum professional fee of $14 under MEPP maintains alignment with average professional fees currently charged in Manitoba and limits variation in fees.

How frequently will a professional fee for pharmacists be covered for products under this program?
- MEPP will cover up to a maximum of one $14 professional fee:
  - per month for diabetes medications and medications for HIV treatment or HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).
  - per three months for oral contraceptives (excluding emergency contraceptive pills).
- This does not prevent or restrict any pharmacy from dispensing any MEPP eligible product more frequently; however, pharmacies that dispense medication more frequently (daily, weekly, biweekly, etc.), must evenly split the $14 professional fee based on the frequency of dispensing.
- Any additional fees the pharmacy may choose to charge will not be covered by MEPP.
- Pharmacists should refer to the following Claim Submissions Procedures (CSPs) for additional information regarding MEPP and FOD:
  - CSP – Manitoba Enhanced Pharmacare Program
  - CSP – Dispensing Frequency

Is coverage of more frequent dispensing for oral contraceptives, diabetes and HIV medications available under MEPP?
- No. Requests for exceptional coverage of more frequent dispensing fees for drugs on the Frequency of Dispensing (FOD) List (available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/profdocs/list_fd.pdf) will not be considered.

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- Pharmacies may dispense medications more frequently (daily, weekly, biweekly, etc.), but must evenly split the professional fee based on the frequency of dispensing.
- Pharmacists should refer to the following Claim Submissions Procedures (CSPs) for additional information regarding MEPP and FOD:
  - [CSP – Manitoba Enhanced Pharmacare Program](#)
  - [CSP – Dispensing Frequency](#)

If I have issues submitting MEPP claims under the PH carrier code, who should I contact?
- Pharmacies may contact the DPIN Helpdesk at 204-786-8000 or toll free at 1-800-663-7774, selecting option 2.

How should my pharmacy document client responses regarding self-declaration of coverage under a federal drug plan or another provincial drug plan? Has this been built into DPIN?
- Pharmacies may determine how to best implement this documentation requirement. This functionality cannot be built into DPIN.

Birth Control

How can health care providers obtain copper intrauterine devices (IUDs) at no charge for their clients?
- For health care providers to obtain copper IUDs at no charge for their clients, providers will first need to register their clinic (physical location) with Manitoba Health, Seniors, and Long-Term Care (MHSLC) at the following link: [Manitoba Copper IUD Health Care Provider Registration Form](#).
- Once registered, MHSLC will provide the registrar, via email, with a Materials Distribution Agency (MDA) client number and the Copper IUD order form. The **MDA client number is used to bill HSLTC directly** for all costs incurred with the ordering of copper IUDs including the shipping.
- Health care providers must list their clinic information as **the shipping location**.
- Health care providers may order copper IUDs to have "on-hand". However, stockpiling is not recommended. Orders over five (5) units will be subject to review and may not be approved.
- Delivery can be expected within seven to ten business days.

Can clients be reimbursed after filling their copper IUD prescription at a pharmacy?
- Copper IUDs dispensed through community pharmacies are not covered under MEPP.
- Health care providers must order copper IUDs directly from MDA for MEPP coverage.
- Hormonal IUDs continue to be available and covered through pharmacies.

I am a physician who works at multiple clinics, can I order copper IUDs for all the clinic locations?
- Yes, registration for copper IUDs is by location not health care provider.
- MHSLC encourages health care providers to coordinate the ordering of copper IUDs to ensure a sufficient supply is available at the clinic, but stockpiling is not occurring.

HIV

Do prescribers need to register to prescribe HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medications?

- No. There is no longer a requirement to register as a PrEP prescriber.
- Prescribers are still expected to:
    - Be familiar with Manitoba's Eligibility Criteria and Clinical Guidance for Manitoba HIV PrEP document and the Manitoba HIV Program's HIV Prevention Guidelines prior to prescribing PrEP.
    - Ensure that each client meets the eligibility criteria for PrEP established in the Manitoba Drug Benefits Formulary.
    - Schedule ongoing follow-up for monitoring and counseling as outlined in the HIV Prevention Guidelines.