

# Executive Officer Notice

## Edition 42 of the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary

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Edition 42 of the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Formulary/Comparative Drug Index (CDI) is released on November 28, 2013. The monthly formulary changes for November are incorporated into Edition 42.

In keeping with the recent practice of providing formulary updates in electronic form only, Edition 42 marks the first fully electronic edition of the Formulary. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is no longer mailing out printed copies or making printed copies available for order at ServiceOntario Publications. The ODB Formulary is available for viewing, downloading or printing on the ministry's website at [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/edition\\_42.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/edition_42.aspx).

These changes are aligned with government-wide initiatives to encourage environmental sustainability through greener business practices. The printing and mailing of the ODB Formulary and the updates was an inefficient process that did not provide timely access to the monthly Formulary updates.

Edition 42 consists of an updated PDF document and the searchable e-Formulary. Part III-A (General Benefits) and Part XII (Limited Use) are only available via the e-Formulary at <https://www.healthinfo.moh.gov.on.ca/formulary/index.jsp>. All parts of Edition 42 will be revised with each monthly update, improving access to the most current benefit information.

The ministry is continuing to modernize the ODB Formulary and improving access to benefit information. Future initiatives will consider modernization of the searchable e-Formulary and improving access to Exceptional Access Program (EAP) coverage information.

# Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary Edition 42 - Questions & Answers

## 1. What changes have been made in Edition 42 of the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Formulary?

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All parts of Edition 42 will be revised with each monthly update improving access to the most current benefit information. The monthly updates continue to be posted online as usual but with a new layout and formatting that are accessible for users with disabilities.

## 2. Why were changes made to the ODB Formulary?

Having Edition 42 available in electronic format is more environmentally friendly, easier to update and it still can be viewed, downloaded and printed if desired. It is in alignment with the Ontario Public Services' Green Transformation Strategy and the ministry's vision of modernizing the e-Formulary to add more information and improve timely access to information.

## 3. Can a copy of Edition 42 of the Formulary be purchased through ServiceOntario Publications?

No. The PDF of Edition 42 is available on the ministry's website for individual printing if desired.

## 4. Why are the drug tables in Part III-A (General Benefits) and Part XII (Limited Use) not available in the PDF document of Edition 42?

With monthly updates to the ODB Formulary, it is difficult and inefficient to maintain up-to-date coverage information in a printed format. The latest information in Part III-A and Part XII is available in the e-Formulary, a searchable database that facilitates quick access to coverage information.

For those who still prefer to have a list of Limited Use products, select *Limited Use Products* from the *Coverage Status* drop down menu in the e-Formulary and a list of drugs with Limited Use criteria can be generated for viewing or printing.

## 5. Who should I contact if I have any more questions?

Questions or concerns about the ODB Formulary may be sent to: [ODBFormulary.MOH@ontario.ca](mailto:ODBFormulary.MOH@ontario.ca).