

Notice from the Executive Officer:

New Blood Glucose Test Strip Reimbursement Policy

November 23, 2015

The purpose of this notice is to provide you with information regarding upcoming changes to the reimbursement of Blood Glucose Test Strip (BGTS) policy under the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program effective **December 1, 2015**.

Current BGTS Reimbursement Policy:

Under the current BGTS reimbursement model, the ministry reimburses pharmacies the amount identified in the column **Amount MOHLTC Pays** in section IX-B of the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Formulary/Comparative Drug Index (Formulary) or on the ODB e-Formulary, plus the lesser of the posted usual and customary fee or the ODB dispensing fee, minus the co-payment portion. No amount more than that shown in the column **Amount Patient Pays** plus the co-payment portion can be charged to the recipient.

New BGTS Reimbursement Policy:

As of December 1, 2015, the **Amount Patient Pays** portion will be eliminated. Removing the **Amount Patient Pays** portion will increase coverage for ODB recipients while maintaining access to currently listed BGTS. Pharmacies may not charge eligible ODB recipients any amount other than the co-payment for supplying BGTS under the ODB program. The ministry will reimburse pharmacies the amount identified in the column **Amount MOHLTC Pays**. No mark-up will be permitted for BGTS. Cost-to-Operator claims will not be accepted.

BGTS Reimbursement Limits:

There will be no changes to the BGTS reimbursement limits which became effective on August 1, 2013. The Health Network System (HNS) will continue to track and determine the appropriate levels of reimbursement of BGTS based on the current diabetes therapy used by eligible ODB recipients.

Pricing Changes – Diabetic Testing Agents

In addition, there are changes to the **Amount MOHLTC Pays** for various BGTS effective December 1, 2015. An OPDP Notice and a file with the detailed pricing changes will be made available for pharmacies to download and review prior to the effective date.