

Ontario Public Drug Programs

Notice from the Executive Officer: Funding Valved Holding Chambers through the Ontario Drug Benefit Program

December 21, 2017

This notice is to provide information to pharmacies about claim submissions and reimbursement for valved holding chambers (VHCs), using the Health Network System (HNS). This notice is a Ministry policy that must be complied with, in accordance with the HNS Subscription Agreement for Pharmacy Operators.

Effective January 1, 2018, Ontario will publicly fund select VHCs through the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program.

Overview

Valved holding chambers are used in conjunction with metered-dose inhalers to deliver inhaled asthma medications. A valved holding chamber includes a one-way valve at the mouthpiece. This device traps and holds the aerosolized medication, which improves drug delivery by allowing the patient to take slow, deep breaths to inhale all of the medicine. The one-way valve prevents patients from accidentally exhaling into the tube.

Reimbursement Criteria

All Ontario Drug Benefit recipients aged 12 years and under with a valid prescription from a physician or nurse practitioner are eligible to receive an ODB-funded valved holding chamber.

Quantity Restriction

Eligible ODB recipients will be entitled to receive one (1) valved holding chamber (with or without mask/mouthpiece) per 365-day period.

Reimbursement

Claims for valved holding chambers listed below will be reimbursed by the ministry. Pharmacies are eligible to be reimbursed in accordance with the following formula:

Reimbursable Amount + applicable ODB dispensing fee

Pharmacy Billing Procedure

The Product Identification Number (PIN) is to be used for billing purposes. Pharmacies will be reimbursed for supplying valved holding chambers in accordance with the table below, subject to changes which will be communicated to pharmacies via OneMail.

PIN	PIN Description	Manufacturer	Reimbursable Amount (includes mark-up)
09858012	AeroChamber Plus Flow-Vu Anti-Static Valved Holding Chamber Infant Small Mask	Trudell Medical International	\$40.6836
09858013	AeroChamber Plus Flow-Vu Anti-Static Valved Holding Chamber Child Medium Mask	Trudell Medical International	\$40.6836
09858014	AeroChamber Plus Flow-Vu Anti-Static Valved Holding Chamber Youth Mouthpiece	Trudell Medical International	\$25.4340
09858015	AeroChamber Plus Flow-Vu Anti-Static Valved Holding Chamber Girls Mouthpiece	Trudell Medical International	\$25.4340
09858016	AeroChamber Plus Flow-Vu Anti-Static Valved Holding Chamber Adult Mouthpiece	Trudell Medical International	\$25.4340
09858017	AeroChamber Plus Flow-Vu Anti-Static Valved Holding Chamber Adult Small Mask	Trudell Medical International	\$43.0488
09858018	AeroChamber Plus Flow-Vu Anti-Static Valved	Trudell Medical International	\$43.0488

	Holding Chamber Adult Large Mask		
09858005	A2A Aerosol to Airways Spacer	Clement Clarke International Limited	\$9.7200
09858006	A2A Spacer with Small Mask	Clement Clarke International Limited	\$12.9600
09858007	A2A Spacer with Medium Mask	Clement Clarke International Limited	\$12.9600
09858001	InspiraChamber	INSPIRX INC.	\$25.4340
09858002	InspiraChamber + Mask Small	INSPIRX INC.	\$40.6836
09858003	InspiraChamber + Mask Medium	INSPIRX INC.	\$40.6836
09858004	InspiraChamber + Mask Large	INSPIRX INC.	\$43.0488
09858008	Optichamber Diamond Valved Holding Chamber	Respironics Respiratory Drug Delivery (UK) LTD.	\$17.6472
09858009	Optichamber Diamond Valved Holding Chamber + Small Mask	Respironics Respiratory Drug Delivery (UK) LTD.	\$30.1644
09858010	Optichamber Diamond Valved Holding Chamber + Medium Mask	Respironics Respiratory Drug Delivery (UK) LTD.	\$30.1644
09858011	Optichamber Diamond Chamber + Large Mask	Respironics Respiratory Drug Delivery (UK) LTD.	\$33.2424

Pharmacies are eligible to be reimbursed for the amount allowable for each PIN, which includes a mark-up of 8%. In addition to the amount in the table above, a pharmacy's usual ODB dispensing fee is eligible for reimbursement.

For each VHC claim, pharmacy operators must add their usual ODB dispensing fee to the amount in the table above and submit one reimbursement amount in the professional fee field using the appropriate PIN. For example, a non-rural pharmacy dispensing an A2A Aerosol to Airways Spacer (PIN 09858005) would be entitled to a total reimbursement of \$9.72 + \$8.83 = \$18.55.

For billing purposes, pharmacy documentation must be maintained in a readily available format for the purpose of post-payment verification for a minimum of 2 years. Overpayments due to inappropriate claim submissions are subject to recovery.

ODB-eligible Recipients

Claims must be submitted online through the HNS. The claim submission follows the normal process for submitting claims through the HNS with the following additional information:

- Intervention code: 'PS' (Professional Care Services)
- Product Identification Number (PIN): Select the appropriate PIN from the table above
- Valid Pharmacist ID
- Professional Fee: Select the applicable Maximum Reimbursable Amount associated with PIN and add the appropriate usual ODB dispensing fee.

Restrictions

Only ODB-funded valved holding chambers supplied to an ODB eligible recipient with a valid prescription from a physician or nurse practitioner will be reimbursed. ODB eligible recipients aged 12 years and younger are entitled to receive one (1) valved holding chamber per 365-day period.

Additional Information:

For pharmacies:

Please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

For all other Health Care Providers and the Public:

Please call ServiceOntario, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161 TTY 1-800-387-5559. In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282