

## Notice of Change to the Health Network System Subscription Agreement for Pharmacy Operators

**June 4, 2019**

Notice is being provided to all pharmacies who have entered into a Health Network System (HNS) Subscription Agreement for Pharmacy Operators (the "Agreement") that, effective July 1, 2019, TELUS Health Solutions, Inc., will be the provider of secure network connectivity and data transmission services.

As per the Agreement, every pharmacy must have an Acquirer Host (AH) that is capable of connecting the pharmacy to the HNS for the purpose of billing Ontario Public Drug Programs. Currently, there are three AHs capable of connecting to the HNS: Shoppers Drug Mart, Rexall and TELUS Health Solutions. Effective July 1, 2019, TELUS Health Solutions will be the only AH capable of connecting to the HNS due to a change in the Ministry's Vendor of Record arrangements for the AH services.

The ministry is working with the three current Acquirer Hosts (Shoppers Drug Mart, Rexall and TELUS Health Solutions) to ensure a seamless transition. All parties have assured the ministry that the pharmacies currently transmitting through the Shoppers Drug Mart or Rexall AH will be transitioned to the TELUS Health Solutions AH by June 30, 2019, or earlier. However, if you have questions or concerns, you should contact your current AH service provider.

Under the Agreement, every pharmacy is required to provide the Ministry with advanced written notice of any change to its AH. This requirement does not apply to the transition to the TELUS Health Solutions AH described above.

The Ministry has been diligently working with its information technology partners to ensure a smooth transition and to minimize any interruption in your connection to the HNS.

Pharmacies should direct all questions regarding this transition to their current AH provider.