

Notice from the Executive Officer: Drug Submissions for Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

(Originally sent via OneMail/DDD Notice No. 20062 on April 3, 2020)

The purpose of this notice is to provide updated information regarding interim measures for drug submissions to the ODB.

As announced via OneMail on March 23, 2020, the Drugs and Devices Division (DDD) will accept e-mail submissions instead of electronic copies on USB, CD or DVD. This applies to all product submissions (including, but not limited to, Single Source Drug Product submissions, Multiple Source Drug Product submissions, Valved Holding Chamber submissions, Diabetic Testing Agent submissions, and Nutrition Product submissions).

The ministry's offices are currently closed. Virtual work efforts have been instituted as part of our continuity of operations for drug submissions.

To ensure the safety of Ontarians, manufacturer staff and ministry employees, the ministry is announcing additional changes that are effective immediately.

Manufacturers are asked to take note of the following:

Effective immediately, only e-mailed submissions can be processed during the office closure. DDD staff are unable to receive submissions submitted by USB, CD or DVD. Please refer to the March 23 OneMail notice for further instructions. Submissions should be sent to the DDD's email mailbox DrugSubmissions.MOH@ontario.ca.

The DDD expects to publish modified Formulary updates for April and May 2020. We remain committed to processing submission reviews and product listings according to usual process as much as possible. The completed streamlined multiple-source submissions that met the March cut-off are to be listed as per usual process and timelines. The completed Off-Formulary Interchangeable (OFI) submissions that have met the March cut-off, price changes and housekeeping changes are deferred until a future formulary update. The status of the submissions that have met the April cut-off will be communicated individually to manufacturers in the Notice of Drug Submission Status (NDSS) letters. Manufacturers are asked to monitor DDD notices for further updates. Please note the usual submission deadline dates for multiple source products still apply.

General inquiries regarding drug submissions, review process, and product listing may also be sent to the e-mail address above.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.