Ontario Public Drug Programs
Drug Submission - Policy Directive

The Ontario Public Drug Programs (OPDP) is publishing an addendum (Part XII.1.) to the Ontario Guidelines for Drug Submission and Evaluation (Guidelines) to assist manufacturers in making submissions to the OPDP to have their valved holding chamber (VHC) product considered for funding through the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program.

Effective January 1, 2018, the ministry will fund VHCs through the ODB program.

If a VHC product is listed on the Formulary, the VHC product would be eligible for reimbursement when it is prescribed for ODB-eligible recipients aged 12 years and under. A quantity restriction of one VHC per patient per year would apply.

Part XII.1 contains information regarding submission requirements a manufacturer of a VHC must satisfy in order to have its VHC product considered for reimbursement under the ODB program.

It is the responsibility of manufacturers to monitor clarifications of, or changes to, the Guidelines through the Ministry’s website.

Submission Requirements

A manufacturer may satisfy the submission requirements by submitting one hard copy and one electronic copy (CDs, DVDs or USB keys) of the following:

(a) Cover Letter

The letter should include a subject heading that adheres to the following format:

RE: <insert full product name > (the “Product”) manufactured by <insert name of manufacturer> (“the Manufacturer”)

(b) Confirmation for the submitted product that:

- it does not pose a choking hazard to children ≤ 12 years of age (i.e. no choking parts with disassembly)

- it is suitable for use with all metered dose inhalers (MDIs)
(b) Evidence that Health Canada has issued an authorization (i.e. a copy of the Medical Device Licence and Medical Device Establishment Licence, as applicable) for the sale or importation of the product in Canada;

(c) A letter authorizing the Executive Officer of Ontario Public Drug Programs (Executive Officer) to gain access to all information with respect to the product in the possession of Health Canada or of the government of any province or territory in Canada and authorizing the Executive Officer to disclose any information with respect to the product in the possession of the ministry to Health Canada or of the government of any province or territory in Canada (template can be found on the ministry website:


(d) Clearly indicate the manufacturer list price (price without mark-up): the lowest price per package size and per VHC to four decimal places sold to wholesalers or pharmacies (if direct distribution to pharmacies).

In cases where the cost per VHC is different from the cost per pack divided by the number of VHCs in each package, the lowest price will be used.

(e) A letter dated and signed by a senior company official confirming the ability to supply product at the submitted price for distribution in a quantity sufficient to meet the anticipated demand. The template can be found on the ministry website:


(f) Certification that no rebates were provided to a person listed under in section 11.5(1) of the Ontario Drug Benefit Act since Health Canada approved the product for sale in Canada. The template can be found on the ministry website:


(g) Certification confirming that the VHC product is not a private label product as defined in section 12.02 of O. Reg. 201/96 made under the Ontario Drug Benefit Act, with necessary modifications. The template can be found on the ministry website:

(h) A copy of the device label

(i) Evidence of safety and effectiveness of the submitted product:
   - A copy of the completed, dated, and signed New Class II Medical Device Licence Application Form approved by Health Canada
   - A summary of objective evidence to establish that the submitted product is compliant with the safety and effectiveness requirements in accordance with section 10, subsections 11(1) and 12(1) and sections 13 to 20 of the Medical Devices Regulations.

If any of this information was not a requirement for filing the regulatory submission with Health Canada, please include a statement confirming this on the cover letter of the submission to OPDP. Should questions arise, it may be necessary to provide further information in order to complete a submission.

(j) ODB market share penetration or impact analysis on ODB expenditure, including the underlying assumptions for the calculations.

The submission will be deemed incomplete if any of the above components are missing.

Addendum Part XII.1. will be posted on the ministry’s website by January 1, 2018, and will be effective and strictly enforced as of January 1, 2018. Any submission made to OPDP on or after January 1, 2018 must comply with the applicable provisions in Addendum Part XII.1.

Addendum Part XII.1. will be available through the following link by January 1, 2018:


It is important to note that the ministry reserves the right to request additional information or material, or defined conditions not specifically described in the Guidelines, in order to allow the ministry to adequately assess the safety, efficacy, quality, costs and cost-effectiveness of the product.