

Notice from the Executive Officer

NOTICE OF TERMINATION AND REPLACEMENT OF AGREEMENT: **Ontario Public Drug Programs Subscription Agreement**

October 2, 2008

This is to provide notice that all Health Network Subscription Agreements that are currently in place between the Ministry and each operator (“Operators”) with a billing account under Ontario Public Drug Programs will be terminated effective **January 15, 2009**. The termination right provided under article 15 of the current agreement is being exercised by the Ministry so that the old agreement may be replaced with an updated version.

Originally drafted when the Health Network System (HNS) was first implemented in November 1993, the content of the current agreement is substantially out of date and does not accurately reflect the current pharmacy and public drug program environment. Operators who wish to continue their billing privileges under Ontario Public Drug Programs (the “Program”) and to maintain their HNS accounts must complete and sign the Ministry's new HNS Subscription Agreement (the “Agreement”), which has been updated in keeping with recent legislative developments and other reforms undertaken by the Program over the last several years. Both the Ontario Pharmacists’ Association and Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores were consulted and have provided input into the content of the Agreement.

The Ministry will be mailing a hardcopy of the Agreement to Operators who currently have a billing account under the Program. On the first page of the Agreement, Operators will be required to provide the following information in clear print:

- Operator’s corporate name or number;
- Operator’s business name, if different from the corporate name;
- name of Designated Manager (as registered with the Ontario College of Pharmacists);
- contact information of Operator, including mailing address, telephone number fax number and email address; and
- signature of person with authority to bind the Operator.

Failure by an Operator to execute the Agreement before **January 15, 2009** will result in the suspension of that Operator's HNS account. In such cases the HNS account will be re-activated within five (5) business days of the Agreement being signed and submitted to the Ministry.

Claims may only be submitted by an Operator for reimbursement if an Agreement is in place. Operators will not be able to make a claim through the HNS or be eligible for payment if the Operator’s account is suspended.

If you have any questions about the new Agreement, please contact:

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Helen Stevenson
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Ontario Public Drug Programs