

## Ontario Public Drug Programs

# Notice from the Executive Officer: Removal of the Special Authorization (Allergen) Form for Pharmacy Dispensing of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors for Ontario Drug Benefit recipients

December 1, 2017

### What's Changing?

Beginning December 1, 2017 **all ODB-eligible individuals**, including those who will be eligible through OHIP+ starting January 1, 2018 (individuals aged 24 years and under with OHIP coverage), will no longer require a Special Authorization (Allergen) (SAA) form for an epinephrine auto-injector (e.g. EpiPen® or EpiPen Jr®) to be reimbursed through the Allergen program. A valid prescription will still be required, and billing procedures will remain the same.

It is important to note that valid and complete SAA forms will still be required for all other products dispensed by pharmacies and reimbursed through the Allergen program. SAA forms will also be required in order for non-pharmacy allergen extract suppliers to submit claims for payment to the Allergen program.

### Background on the Allergen program

The Allergen program provides first dollar coverage for eligible Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program recipients for certain drug products used to treat allergies and allergic reactions.

Allergen extract products reimbursed through the Allergen program may be provided by an authorized allergen extract supplier or through an accredited retail pharmacy.

**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