

Notice from the Executive Officer: *Ontario Drug Benefit Act* Regulatory Amendment to Support the Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP)

March 2, 2018

Re: Amendment to Ontario Regulation 201/96 (under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act*), effective retroactive to July 1, 2017

The Ontario Basic Income Pilot (OBIP) is a study piloted by the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) that will test whether a basic income can better support vulnerable workers, improve health and education outcomes for people with low incomes, and help ensure that everyone shares in Ontario's economic growth. The pilot is occurring in three locations (Hamilton, Brantford, Brant County; Thunder Bay and the surrounding area; and Lindsay).

The government made this amendment to ensure that individuals who were entitled to receive drug benefits under the *Ontario Disability Support Program Act, 1997* (ODSPA) and the *Ontario Works Act, 1997* (OWA) immediately before receiving Basic Income payments under the OBIP continue to have access to drug benefits as eligible persons under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act* (ODBA) so long as they are in receipt of Basic Income payments.

This amendment is retroactive to July 1, 2017 to align with the launch of OBIP.

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