

## Ontario Public Drug Programs

# Notice from the Executive Officer: Completion of Strengthening Pharmacy Payment Management

December 4, 2018

On September 1, 2017, Ontario Regulation 201/96 made under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act* (ODBA) was amended to temporarily adjust the amount paid to pharmacies for supplying a listed drug product under the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program.

This temporary adjustment was implemented to recover the shortfall that accrued in FY2016/17 from a number of pharmacy-related savings initiatives implemented in 2015.

**The temporary adjustment began September 1, 2017 and ended on November 30, 2018, at which time the total payment adjustment reached \$35,000,000.**

The regulatory amendments which enabled this temporary adjustment will be automatically removed from the regulation on March 1, 2019. The legislative amendments will be automatically removed from the ODBA on September 1, 2019.

For future pay periods, pharmacies will only receive a Summary Remittance Advice report if during that pay period a paper claim/reversal was processed, the ministry made an adjustment for a reason other than this temporary adjustment, or the pharmacy had a negative balance at the beginning or end of the pay period.

### **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