

Updated Executive Officer Notice: Supplying of Publicly Funded Evusheld™ for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis of COVID-19 in Ontario Pharmacies

Effective October 3, 2022 (Updated December 12, 2022)

All pharmacies with a Health Network System (HNS) account and valid HNS Subscription Agreement with the ministry (hereinafter referred to as “pharmacy” or “pharmacies”) are eligible to dispense the publicly funded monoclonal antibody Evusheld™ (tixagevimab and cilgavimab) for prevention of COVID-19 to eligible Ontarians.

This Executive Officer (EO) Notice and the accompanying Questions and Answers (Qs & As) document set out the terms and conditions for a pharmacy’s submission of claims for payment (claims) for supplying Evusheld™ to eligible individuals. This Notice and Qs & As are a Ministry Policy that pharmacy operators must comply with under section 3.2 of the HNS Subscription Agreement for Pharmacy Operators.

This EO Notice replaces the previous EO notice on the same topic that was effective October 3, 2022.

General Eligibility

An individual with a valid prescription for Evusheld™ is eligible to receive publicly funded Evusheld™ if:

- they live, work, or study in Ontario or they are visiting Ontario from another province/territory or country, and
- they meet the applicable clinical criteria (see section below).

Note that an eligible individual does not need to be an Ontario Drug Benefit Program recipient and may not have a valid Ontario health number¹ (e.g., if they are visiting Ontario from another province/territory or country). If a pharmacy supplies publicly funded Evusheld™ to an eligible individual who does not have a valid Ontario health number, then

¹ In this Executive Officer Notice and the accompanying Qs & As, “Ontario health number” means Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) Card Number or Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) eligibility number issued by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services or by a Home and Community Care Support Service organization for some ODB eligible recipients.

the pharmacy must submit the claim for payment using the Proxy ID (see billing procedures below).

Clinical Criteria

The clinical criteria for dispensing Evusheld™ is based on [clinical guidance from Ontario Health](#). Ontario Health does not recommend routine use of Evusheld™ for pre-exposure prophylaxis for any patient group, including immunocompromised patients, due to the prevalence of variants that are resistant to Evusheld (including BA.4.6, BF.7, BQ.1, and BQ.1.1).

To be eligible for publicly funded Evusheld™, individuals must:

- Be 12 years of age or older;
- Weigh at least 40 kg;
- Not have a current COVID-19 infection;
- Not have a recent COVID-19 exposure*²; AND
- Have a prescription to receive Evusheld™ as pre-exposure prophylaxis due to exceptional circumstances (based on the prescriber's clinical assessment).

* Recent exposure means that the individual has had contact with a confirmed case and is still within the timeframe to develop COVID-19 from that exposure (e.g., 8 days). Refer to product monograph for more information.

Please note, Evusheld™ is not publicly funded in Ontario for use as a treatment for individuals with a confirmed COVID-19 infection due to the risk of treatment failure against currently circulating variants in Ontario and the availability of more effective treatments.

General Description

- There is **no cost** to eligible individuals who receive publicly funded Evusheld™ at a pharmacy.
- No drug cost will be paid as pharmacies will receive Evusheld™ free-of-charge through participating pharmaceutical distributors.
- Table 1 lists the dispensing fees paid to pharmacies for supplying publicly funded Evusheld™ products to eligible individuals².

² Inclusion of a product in the Table does not guarantee supply of the product through the participating pharmaceutical distributors.

- Eligible individuals may receive a 300mg or 600mg dose of Evusheld™ as prescribed. Please ensure to use the correct PIN in claims for payment.
 - **NOTE: The updated Health Canada product monograph recommended dose is 600mg of Evusheld™**, administered as two separate 3.0 mL, sequential, injections of 300mg of tixagevimab and 300mg of cilgavimab.

Table 1: PINs to Support Reimbursement for Supplying Publicly Funded Evusheld™ (tixagevimab and cilgavimab)

PIN	Description	Total Amount Paid*
09858167	Evusheld Dispensing Fee – 300mg dose ³ (includes \$13.25 dispensing fee and distribution costs for one carton/unit)	\$23.25
09858169	Evusheld Dispensing Fee – 600mg dose ³ (includes \$13.25 dispensing fee and distribution costs for two cartons/units)	\$33.25

*Note: Primary pharmacy service providers of long-term care (LTC) homes are reimbursed through the LTC home capitation model and will not be paid a dispensing fee for supplying publicly funded Evusheld™ to a LTC home resident who is an eligible individual. Except in emergency situations, secondary pharmacy service providers (i.e., those that do not have a contract with a LTC home) are also not eligible for a dispensing fee for supplying publicly funded Evusheld™ to a LTC home resident who is an eligible individual. Pharmacies ineligible to receive a dispensing fee must submit claims for Evusheld™ with a zero dollar fee.

³ The updated Health Canada approved Product Monograph for Evusheld™ (updated November 9, 2022) includes a recommended dose of 600mg. If required, a repeat dose of 600mg may be given once every 6 months. Dispensers are encouraged to review the Product Monograph and to consult with the prescriber if they have any questions or concerns about a prescribed dosage.

Billing Procedures – Summary

- Claims for supplying Evusheld™ can only be submitted electronically using the HNS (see “Billing Procedures - Detailed” below). No manual paper claims will be accepted unless 3 intervention codes are required in order to process the claim.
- Each claim must include one of the Product Identification Numbers (PINs) noted in Table 1 above (do not use the DIN of the product).
- The person submitting the claim must ensure that the eligible individual’s date of birth, Ontario health number (if available) and name (as it appears on the health card, if available) are included in the claim. Failure to do so – especially for non-Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program recipients – may impact the ability to submit future claims for these individuals.
 - **For eligible individuals without an Ontario health number, pharmacies must use the proxy patient ID: 79999 999 93 (see below for further details).**

Billing Procedures – Detailed

Claims submission requirements are as follows:

For ODB-eligible recipients

The claim submission follows the usual process (See [Section 5](#) of the Ontario Drug Programs Reference Manual (“Manual”)) for submitting claims on the HNS with the following additional information:

- Intervention code ‘PS’: (Professional Care Services)
- PIN: see Table 1 above for list of PINs
- Valid Pharmacist ID
- Professional Fee: see Table 1 above for ‘Total Amount Paid’

For Non-ODB recipients

When submitting a claim for an eligible individual who does not have ODB coverage, pharmacists must submit the following information:

- Patient Gender: ‘F’ = female; ‘M’ = male
- Patient Date of Birth: Valid YYYYMMDD
- Patient’s Ontario Health number*

- Intervention codes:
 - PS: Professional Care Services
 - ML: Established eligibility coverage (i.e., 1 day of the Plan ‘S’ coverage)
- Carrier ID: ‘S’
- PIN: see Table 1 above for list of PINs
- Valid Pharmacist ID
- Professional Fee: see Table 1 above for ‘Total Amount Paid’

***For eligible individuals without an Ontario health number**

When submitting a claim for an eligible person who does not have an Ontario health number, pharmacists must submit the following information:

- First Name: Patient’s first name
- Last Name: Patient’s last name
- Patient Gender: ‘F’ = female; ‘M’ = male
- Patient Date of Birth: Valid YYYYMMDD
- **Proxy patient ID: 79999 999 93**
- Intervention codes:
 - PS: Professional Care Services
 - PB: Name entered is consistent with card
- Valid Pharmacist ID

Pharmacy Documentation Requirements

Pharmacies must keep a record of every publicly funded Evusheld™ product supplied to an eligible individual. Standard documentation requirements for prescriptions apply.

Pharmacies and pharmacists shall keep records consistent with their obligations under applicable law, including the *Pharmacy Act, 1991* and the *Drug and Pharmacies Regulation Act*, and under any instructions or guidelines provided by the Ontario College of Pharmacists or the ministry.

For purposes of post-payment verification, pharmacy records related to claims for publicly funded Evusheld™ must be maintained in a readily available format for the purpose of ministry inspection for a minimum of 10 years from the last recorded pharmacy service provided to the eligible individual, or until 10 years after the day on which the individual reached or would have reached the age of 18 years, whichever is longer.

Overpayments due to inappropriate claim submissions are subject to recovery.

The following pharmacy documentation must be maintained in a readily retrievable format for the purposes of post-payment verification:

- A copy of the prescription for Evusheld™; and
- A written record made by the dispenser that the individual meets the eligibility criteria for publicly funded Evusheld™; including:
 - Screening the individual to ensure they are not currently symptomatic or known to be infected with COVID-19; however a negative COVID-19 test is not required to receive Evusheld™. The individual must also be screened to ensure they have no recent high-risk exposure to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 during the close contact’s period of communicability.
- A written record that the individual was provided with proper instructions for use including storage requirements and information regarding potential side effects.

Exclusions and Restrictions

- Publicly funded Evusheld™ can only be supplied to an eligible individual pursuant to a valid prescription.
- Only a single claim (with one dispensing fee) is eligible for reimbursement per recipient according to the recommended dosing guidelines regardless of whether 300mg or 600mg of Evusheld™ is dispensed. The PIN corresponding to the dose of Evusheld™ dispensed must be used.
- If an eligible individual does not have a valid Ontario health number, publicly funded Evusheld™ can still be dispensed, provided that the individual provides an alternate identification confirming their name and date of birth. In such cases, pharmacies must use the **proxy patient ID: 79999 999 93**.
- The supply of publicly funded Evusheld™ for an eligible individual who is a resident of a Long-Term Care (LTC) home falls under the LTC capitation funding model and must be provided by the LTC home’s contracted primary pharmacy service provider. A LTC home primary pharmacy service provider is not eligible for a dispensing fee under this policy for supplying publicly funded Evusheld™ to residents of the LTC home who are eligible individuals. Except in emergency situations, secondary pharmacy service providers (i.e., those that do not have a contract with a LTC home) are not eligible for a dispensing fee for supplying publicly funded Evusheld™ to LTC home residents who are eligible individuals. Pharmacies not eligible for a dispensing fee must submit claims for Evusheld™ with a zero dollar fee.

Prior EO Notices

- Executive Officer Notice: Supplying of Publicly Funded Evusheld™ for Pre Exposure Prophylaxis of COVID-19 in Ontario Pharmacies, effective October 3, 2022.

Additional Information:

For pharmacy billing: Please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

For COVID-19 related issues in pharmacy: Please email the ministry at:
OPDPInfoBox@ontario.ca

For COVID-19 treatment information: Please access this [website](#)

For Ministry COVID-19 Information and Planning Resources

- For vaccines, please access this [website](#)
- For guidance, please access this [website](#)

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.