

Pharmacy Benefact

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

Number 633 • August 2016

Maintenance Medication Program (MMP) reminder

The Maintenance Medication Program (MMP) is an automated process that promotes the dispensing of a maintenance supply of 90 to 100 days for maintenance medications. MMP applies to select employer-sponsored group and individual plans. The specific groups participating in the MMP program may change over time. On **September 1, 2016**, additional Alberta Blue Cross groups will be transitioned to the MMP. The MMP will not apply to government-sponsored plans.

It is important to note that the Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan (ASEBP), group 19930, maintenance medication program (Benefact 630) utilizes a design that is different from the Alberta Blue Cross MMP described in this Benefact. Program differences are summarized in the table below. Please note that MMP for Group 19930 does not at this time apply to ARTA members.

Summary of Maintenance Medication Programs for Alberta Blue Cross employer-sponsored group and individual plans and ASEBP

Maintenance Medication Program	Maximum # of claims where dispensing fee component will be paid by the plan*	Intervention codes to be used in specific scenarios	References available on the Alberta Blue Cross web site**
Alberta Blue Cross employer-sponsored group and individual plans	A maximum of three claims for the same drug product with a days' supply of less than 90 to 100 days. The dispensing fee is paid on subsequent claims when submitted with a days' supply of 90 to 100 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NI = dosage change • NF = override quantity appropriate • CO = potential overuse/abuse 	Benefact number 585 February 2016 Maintenance Medication Program drug listing
ASEBP Group 19930, with the exception of ARTA	A maximum of five claims for the same drug product in a calendar year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NF = override quantity appropriate • MY = long term care Rx split for compliance 	Benefact number 630 August 2016 Maintenance Medication Program drug listing

*Claims will not be rejected; however, the dispensing fee component may or may not be paid by the plan

**Alberta Blue Cross web site at www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-resources

Alberta Blue Cross MMP claims response

For these medications, the patient's claim history will be read by the Alberta Blue Cross Pride RT real-time claim adjudication system at the time of claim submission. The MMP does not reject claims, as the drug costs for maintenance medications will continue to be paid. The below response codes pertain to the coverage of the dispensing fee:

- During the stabilization period (which allows for the member to incur three claims for the same maintenance drug product with a smaller days supply) the claim will be adjudicated with coverage provided for the dispensing fee, and the response code of **"KX – patient eligible for maintenance supply"** will be returned.
- Once the plan member's claim history identifies three claims for the same maintenance drug product, if the claim is submitted with less than a 90 day supply, the response code of **"87 - Exceeds max # of prof fees for this drug"** will be returned. If less than a 90 day supply is dispensed, the plan member will be responsible for paying the dispensing fee.
- If a 90 to 100 days' supply is dispensed, the member's plan will continue to pay the dispensing fee.

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Some of our plans will allow for intervention codes to be used in specific scenarios: however, some of our major employer-sponsored group plans have chosen not to allow for the use of intervention codes. At the time of adjudication, when an intervention code is submitted but not accepted by our system, you will receive the appropriate messaging as noted above. Alberta Blue Cross may request documentation to substantiate the use of intervention codes through compliance verification.

ASEBP MMP claims response

- When submitting a claim for a maintenance drug product that is eligible for a maintenance days' supply of 90-100 days, a response code of **"KX – patient eligible for maintenance supply"** will be returned.
- Once the plan member's claim history identifies five dispensed claims for the maintenance drug product, the response code **"87 - Exceeds max # of prof fees for this drug"** will be returned. After the fifth dispense, the eligible dispensing fee will no longer be covered by the plan and the plan member will be responsible for paying the difference.

Intervention codes and applicable Scenarios for Alberta Blue Cross MMP

Scenario	CPhA code allowed
Temporarily required to accommodate a dosage change	NI = dosage change
Temporarily required in select cases where there is less than 90 days remaining on the balance of a prescription and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the prescription was previously filled for 90 to 100 days' supply; • a new prescription cannot be obtained; and • the prescription is not appropriate for pharmacist adaptation to a 90-day supply. 	NF = override - quantity appropriate
Concerns due to overdose or abuse risk with the specific patient having a maintenance days' supply on hand.	CO = potential overuse/abuse

Intervention codes and applicable Scenarios for ASEBP MMP

Scenario	CPhA code allowed
Temporarily required in select cases where there is less than 90 days remaining on the balance of a prescription and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the prescription was previously filled for 90 to 100 days' supply; • a new prescription cannot be obtained; and • the prescription is not appropriate for pharmacist adaptation to a 90-day supply. 	NF = override - quantity appropriate
Long Term Care compliance packaging required	MY = long term care Rx split for compliance

When you have questions:

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at:

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area) • **403-294-4041** (Calgary and area) • **1-800-361-9632** (toll free)
FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area) • **FAX 1-877-305-9911** (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefits and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims. Visit <https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php>



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