

**DECEMBER 2013**

## **DIABETIC TEST STRIPS POLICY**

Back in December 2011 Green Shield Canada (GSC) became the first organization (public or private) to introduce a reimbursement policy limiting diabetic monitoring test strips. With recent updates to the Canadian Diabetic Association Guidelines regarding self-monitoring of blood glucose and changes to some publicly funded provincial drug plans, these quantities were reevaluated and changed effective August 1, 2013, to the following:

- Insulin dependent diabetics will be allowed 3000 strips per year (from the first paid claim)
- Non-insulin dependent diabetics will be allowed 600 strips per year (from the first paid claim)

Letters to warn plan members that they are approaching the maximums are mailed out at 2400 strips (insulin) and 300 strips (non-insulin).

## **INITIAL DAYS SUPPLY FOR HIGH COST DRUGS**

Effective November 1, 2013, GSC implemented an initial days' supply of 10 days for oral drugs considered high cost by GSC. Most of these drugs are to treat multiple sclerosis, cancer, or hepatitis. Once it is determined that the patient can tolerate these drugs, a maximum of a 30-day supply can be filled for each subsequent refill.

This initiative is intended to prevent wastage, promote adherence, and encourage safe handling and storage of these sometimes hazardous agents.

## **REMINDER: PRINTING PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FORMS**

In December 2011, GSC became the only carrier to compensate pharmacies for printing Prior Authorization forms for our plan members. The forms are available through the providerConnect™ portal. As a reminder, pharmacies can bill for this service, using **PIN 991252**, if they receive the response of "drug must be authorized" during electronically transmitted adjudication. To ensure proper payment, the pharmacy must process a claim using the assigned GSC PIN and must bill a minimum of \$10.00 in the dispensing fee field. Also ensure that both the quantity field and the days' supply field are populated with a value of "1."

## REPLACEMENT BILLING PINS FOR LANCETS

The following changes have been made to lancet PINs:

Description	Old PIN (no longer valid outside Quebec)	New PIN (Replacement)
MICROLET LANCETS (100)	965006	97799918
MICROLET LANCETS (200)	965014	97799917
BD-ULTRAFINE 33 LANCETS	965138	97799690
ULTRAFINE II LANCETS (200)	965146	97799883
ONE TOUCH ULTRASOFT LANCETS	965774	97799970
FREESTYLE LANCETS	965804	97799826

## GSC CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE 2013 HOLIDAY HOURS

Tuesday, December 24	CLOSED
Wednesday, December 25	CLOSED
Thursday, December 26	CLOSED
Friday, December 27	8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. EST
Monday, December 30	8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. EST
Tuesday, December 31	8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. EST
Wednesday, January 1	CLOSED

Our regular business hours (8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. EST) resume Thursday, January 2, 2014. Best wishes for a healthy and happy 2014.