

December 2005

## “Big 3” Drug Plan Changes

Effective January 1, 2006, the employees of General Motors of Canada, Ford Motor Company of Canada and DaimlerChrysler Canada Inc. who are Green Shield cardholders will have a change in their drug plan. **Brand name drugs will now be paid to the lowest cost generic alternative, regardless of interchangeability.** The plan member/subscriber or their family member will have to pay the difference in cost between the generic and the brand name drug in addition to their customary co-pay. However, if you are able to substitute the brand name product to a generic brand, then your patient is to only pay their co-pay. In Ontario, there are a number of drugs that are deemed as non-interchangeable. As per the Ontario College of Pharmacist’s direction on non-interchangeable drugs, a physician’s order is required to change brands. This order may be initiated by either the patient or pharmacist.

This information has been communicated to your patients who are affected by this change. The list of drugs which are considered as non-interchangeable in Ontario can be found on our website at [www.greenshield.ca](http://www.greenshield.ca).

## New PIN number for Puregon™ products

Effective January 1, 2006, Organon Canada will have three different strengths of Puregon™ cartridges available: 300 IU, 600 IU and 900 IU. All three products will have the same DIN. For adjudication purposes, Green Shield Canada has created two additional PIN numbers for you to use.

Puregon™ Product description	DIN	PIN/DIN for billing
Puregon™ 300 IU cartridge	2243948	<b>2243948</b>
Puregon™ 600 IU cartridge	2243948	<b>965103</b>
Puregon™ 900 IU cartridge	2243948	<b>965081</b>

### Green Shield Canada Customer Service Centre Holiday Hours

In addition to regular weekend closures, please be advised that our Customer Service Centre will be **closed** December 26 and 27, 2005 and January 2, 2006.

Agents will be available 8:30am to 4:30pm EST on December 28, 29 and 30, 2005.  
Regular business hours will resume January 3, 2006.

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## Green Shield Canada Topical Extemporaneous Compounds Policy

### Eligible Ingredients

Camphor  
Benzoin Tincture  
Hydrocortisone Powder  
Liquor Carbonis Detergens (LCD)  
Menthol  
Salicylic Acid  
Sulfur  
Tar Distillate  
Erythromycin Powder  
Clindamycin Powder  
Ketoconazole Powder  
Metronidazole Powder

### Eligible Bases

Aquaphor Ointment (02009609)  
Dermabase (00067350)  
Glaxal Base (00295604)  
Anhydrous Lanolin (01923129)  
Petrolatum Jelly (00094854 or 00635189)  
Schering Base (00985554)  
Eucerin Ointment (00900907)  
Taro Base (00960063)

One or more of any of the Eligible Ingredients may be added to:

1. Any of the listed Eligible Bases.
2. Any topical drug product which is already a benefit of the individual's drug offering.

Compounding of 2 or more creams/ointments that are already benefits of the plan are eligible with or without additional eligible ingredients. Compounds must contain an active ingredient in a therapeutic concentration that is an eligible benefit of the subscriber's offering.

Compounds for cosmetic purposes such as baldness dry skin or facial wrinkles are not eligible benefits. Any compound (oral, topical, injectable, etc.) that duplicates the formulation of a manufactured pharmaceutical product is not eligible. Unproven compounds are not eligible benefits. For example, drugs intended for oral use that are compounded into a topical mixture would be considered unproven.

Claims for compounds intended to be used orally, rectally, vaginally, injected, ophthalmic or otic preparations must contain a DIN of an eligible product to be covered. Compounds in which a pure chemical is used are ineligible. Any compounded item that is considered "experimental" in nature, is ineligible.

Compounded prescriptions for "Triple P" therapy which use *Prostin VR* as an ingredient are not eligible benefits of Green Shield Canada as erectile dysfunction is not an approved indication of this product. Such claims must use alprostadil powder or *Caverject* to be considered for coverage as a benefit.

***Please note that any extemporaneous compound claim submitted electronically, though paid initially, will be reversed should audit determine it ineligible based on Green Shield Canada's Compound Policy.***