

Clarification on compensation for pharmacy services

As outlined in *Pharmacy Benefacts* 346 and 347 (published June 2012) and 352 (published July 2012), Alberta pharmacies receive compensation for their professional opinion and assessments when providing pharmacy services. This *Pharmacy Benefact* provides additional clarification on the following pharmacy services.

When completing a Comprehensive Annual Care Plan (CACP) or Standard Medication Management Assessment (SMMA) for your patient, ensure you do the following:

- Confirm patient eligibility and obtain the patient's consent.
- Complete and document a detailed patient assessment.
- Complete a Best Possible Medication History (BPMH).
- Create a plan to address drug-therapy problems.
- Provide a copy of the CACP/SMMA to other health professionals including the patient's physician and the dispensing pharmacy (if applicable).
- Retain a copy of the CACP/SMMA on the Record of Care.
- Have patient sign the care plan and provide the patient with a copy.
- Complete pharmacist declaration.
- Create a followup and monitoring plan.

An assessment for renewal service allows you to renew the patient's existing prescription based on your assessment of their needs to support continuity of care. It includes renewal of an existing prescription even when you do not have an original prescription. If the patient has provided evidence of ongoing therapy and you are satisfied that there is an immediate need for the drug and it is not reasonably possible to transfer the prescription or send the patient to his/her original pharmacy, you may renew the prescription (Standard 12.1). Since this is a renewal of existing therapy, record it as a renewal.

To be eligible for this intervention, ensure you do the following:

- Obtain the patient's consent.
- Assess the patient and determine whether it is appropriate to renew the prescription. If so, determine an appropriate quantity of drug.
- Reduce to writing a record of the prescribed order.
- Notify the original prescriber of the assessment and resulting intervention.
- Document the intervention in the patient's Record of Care.

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Emergency prescribing is reserved for situations where immediate drug therapy needs to be initiated (i.e., there is no existing prescription).

Assessment for prescribing in an emergency provides compensation when the pharmacist assesses a patient and provides authorization for drug therapy **in the absence of an existing prescription** in an emergency situation.

An emergency is defined as: *When it is not reasonable, according to the pharmacist's professional judgment, for the patient to seek emergency health care elsewhere; and, when there is an immediate, high risk to the patient's health if treatment is not provided.*

To be eligible for this intervention, ensure you do the following:

- Assess the patient and determine whether it is appropriate to prescribe in an emergency.
- Obtain the patient's consent.
- Determine appropriate amount of drugs to supply.
- Reduce to writing a record of the prescribed order.
- Notify the original prescriber of the assessment and resulting intervention.
- Document the intervention in the patient's Record of Care.

Additional information on compensation for pharmacy services is available on the RxA web site at www.rxa.ca.



For more information on pharmacy topics, please contact your Pharmacy Services representatives at:

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