



June 9, 2004

NOTICE

RE: Omeprazole 20 mg Capsules

REVISION TO BULLETIN 43 - Effective June 15, 2004

Please note that although Losec 20 mg tablets and Apo-Omeprazole 20 mg capsules are interchangeable drugs, Part 2 of the Specified Drugs Regulation has been amended to remove reference to:

(c) H. pylori in conjunction with appropriate antibiotic therapy
as an approved indication for use for Apo-Omeprazole.

It is important to note when dispensing any prescription for Apo-Omeprazole 20 mg capsules that the Product Monograph approved by Health Canada for Apo-Omeprazole lists the following indications for its use:

For the treatment of:

- (a) Duodenal or gastric ulcers in patients not responding to or experiencing unusual or severe adverse reactions to a reasonable trial with H2 blockers, sucralfate or misoprostol;*
- (b) Severe erosive reflux esophagitis or Zollinger-Ellison disease.*

Losec 1-2-3 A and Losec 1-2-3 M will continue to be a Part 2 benefit for Pharmacare, Family Service, Personal Care Home and Palliative Care Drug Access clients. Physicians or pharmacists must call the Exception Drug Status (EDS) office at 1-204-788-6388 or 1-800-557-4303 to receive approval for cost difference consideration/reimbursement for the indication of H. pylori ONLY.

If dispensing Losec 1-2-3 A or Losec 1-2-3 M for the indication of H. pylori:

- **Pharmacare clients** will be required to pay the difference in price between the brand name product and the generic product. To receive cost difference consideration/reimbursement for Losec 20 mg tablets, Pharmacare clients must send their receipt to Pharmacare, 300 Carlton St. Wpg. MB R3B 3M9.
- **Family Service, Personal Care Home or Palliative Care Drug Access clients** should not be charged the cost difference. The pharmacy will be required to send in a completed DPIN reversal/adjustment form to Provincial Drug Programs to receive reimbursement for the cost difference.

NOTE: EDS must be in place prior to dispensing to receive approval for cost difference consideration/reimbursement for the indication of H. pylori **ONLY**.

Please contact the DPIN Help Desk for further information on this process or for adjustment forms.