

July 6, 2021

Dear Health Care Provider:

Re: New – HIV Medication Coverage, Effective July 12, 2021

Manitoba is introducing a new HIV Medication Coverage program, intended for clients who are actively registered with Manitoba Health who are experiencing significant financial barriers to treatment, and who are not enrolled in an insurance program (e.g., federal drug program, Employment and Income Assistance, private insurance program), other than Pharmacare. Access to this program will facilitate timely access to a prescribed ART regimen and will allow patients and their caregivers more time to explore and establish long-term options for medication coverage. This program is not intended to provide coverage indefinitely.

Please use the [HIV Medication Program Eligibility Form](#) to assess client's eligibility for this program.

Terms of Coverage

Patients in the process of enrolling in Manitoba Pharmacare or enrolling in the Deductible Installment Payment Program - If the patient requires additional time to enroll in Pharmacare or to enroll in the Deductible Installment Payment Program, three months of drug coverage will be provided to the client. Once the client is enrolled in Pharmacare or the Deductible Installment Payment Program, costs that were paid through this coverage program will be put towards the client's deductible for the first year of treatment. At the start of each fiscal year, the deductible is reset and the client will be provided with information on their deductible installment plan payments. Coverage in this HIV Medication Coverage program is not intended to be indefinite or to replace annual deductibles or installment payment programs.

Patients cannot enroll in Manitoba Pharmacare - If the patient cannot apply for Pharmacare because of immigration status, new resident, or other factors associated with proof of income or proof of residency issues, one year of coverage for ART is provided and will be reviewed annually.

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues in your facility or clinic.

Sincerely,

"Original signed by"

Richard Baydack, PhD
Director
Communicable Disease Control