Manitoba

Manitoba Pharmacare offers many Manitoba residents prescription drug coverage, and it is “a drug benefit program for any Manitoban, regardless of age, whose income is seriously affected by high prescription drug costs.” Manitoba Pharmacare is a government program, and it is offered by Manitoba Health.

Unlike many other provinces, Manitoba offers the same drug coverage to both seniors and non-seniors.

Am I eligible?

You are eligible if you meet all of the criteria below:

- You are eligible for Manitoba Health coverage
- Your eligible prescription drug costs exceed your Pharmacare deductible
- Your prescription costs are not covered by a private drug insurance program
- Your prescriptions are not paid through other provincial or federal programs

What costs are involved?

Manitoba Pharmacare coverage is based on your total family income and based on the amount you pay for eligible prescription drugs. Every year you are required to pay a portion of your prescription drug costs – this amount is known as your annual Pharmacare deductible.

Click here to calculate your Pharmacare deductible.

Where do I find an application?

Click here for a PDF version of the Manitoba Pharmacare application form.

For more information, see Pharmacare Forms and Worksheets.

What drugs are covered?

A list of all the drugs that are covered is presented in the formulary. Click on the following link to find more information about the Manitoba Formulary.

FAQ

Drug coverage can get confusing sometimes, and questions often arise. Here is a list of frequently asked questions.

How do I apply?

Manitoba Pharmacare has undergone some recent changes, so now there are two ways to apply.

1) One-Time Enrolment Option

With this option you only have to enroll once. Also, you will no longer need to submit an annual application form indicating your yearly income. If you opt for One-Time Enrolment, you can take advantage of the electronic data exchange between Manitoba Health and Revenue Canada. Revenue Canada electronically forwards to Manitoba Health the most recent income information available – which will determine the annual Pharmacare deductible for the following year.
2) Annual Application

If you don’t want to participate in the first option, you can submit an annual application. All you have to do is fill out and sign the Consent and Declaration sections of the Pharmacare Application and Consent Authorization Form and send it to Manitoba Health along with copies of your Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment – which should indicate your total income (line 150).

For more information on these two options, see Applying for Pharmacare.

What coverage is there for hepatitis C medications?

For specific information on coverage for hepatitis C medications, visit hepCinfo.ca’s Treatment Coverage in Your Region.

Considerations for travelers

If you have a drug prescribed to you in a province outside of Manitoba, you can still receive that drug from a Manitoba pharmacy. But, it would be a good idea to double check with your home province’s pharmacy to make sure that you are covered by your health plan.

On the other hand, if you are a Manitoba resident and traveling to another province, you may not be covered by Manitoba Pharmacare when you buy drugs outside of Manitoba. For information on prescription drugs purchased outside of Manitoba, contact the Provincial Drug Plan at (204) 786-7141, toll-free 1-800-297-8099 (within Manitoba). Prescription drugs purchased in countries other than Canada are not covered.

For more information, see Leaving Manitoba to Travel, Work, Study or Move: What You Need to Know About Your Insured Health Benefits.

If you are planning to move to Manitoba, be aware that you will not be able to receive prescription drug coverage until you qualify as a resident of the province, which may take several months.
Disclaimer

Decisions about particular medical treatments should always be made in consultation with a qualified medical practitioner knowledgeable about HIV- and hepatitis C-related illness and the treatments in question.

CATIE provides information resources to help people living with HIV and/or hepatitis C who wish to manage their own health care in partnership with their care providers. Information accessed through or published or provided by CATIE, however, is not to be considered medical advice. We do not recommend or advocate particular treatments and we urge users to consult as broad a range of sources as possible. We strongly urge users to consult with a qualified medical practitioner prior to undertaking any decision, use or action of a medical nature.

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Information on safer drug use is presented as a public health service to help people make healthier choices to reduce the spread of HIV, viral hepatitis and other infections. It is not intended to encourage or promote the use or possession of illegal drugs.

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