Number 691 • June 2017

## Influenza Antiviral Drug Policy - Alberta Public Health Activities Program (APHAP)

This Benefact provides notification of addition of Nat-Oseltamivir 75 mg to the *Alberta Health Influenza Antiviral Drug Policy as Applied to Vulnerable Persons in Congregate Living Settings (Policy)* and clarification of the definitions of Facility and Eligible Person under the Policy.

Effective June 1, 2017, in compliance with the Policy, claims for Nat-Oseltamivir 75 mg can be processed by Alberta Blue Cross under the Alberta Public Health Activities Program (APHAP). It is of high importance that Nat-Oseltamivir 75mg be used in accordance with the Health Canada-approved product monograph.

Facilities under the Policy are supportive living accommodations to which the *Supportive Living Accommodation Licensing Act* applies (such as group homes and assisted living facilities). Facilities **do not include** those covered under the *Nursing Homes Act* (for example, long term care centres) or under the *Hospitals Act* (for example, auxiliary hospitals).

Eligible Persons include residents in the Facility, who are at higher risk of suffering more significant consequences from influenza than the general public, or employees/volunteers who work in the Facility and who are not immunized against Influenza or not effectively immunized. Staff of excluded facilities may have employer-sponsored drug plan coverage to which the antivirals can be submitted and/or be able to submit the prescription receipt to their employer for reimbursement.

For antiviral claims to be eligible for coverage under the Policy, an influenza (or influenza-like illness) outbreak must be confirmed by an Alberta Health Services Medical Officer of Health. Upon outbreak confirmation, Alberta Health Services Public Health (PH) will work with the Facility to obtain antiviral prescriptions. An Exposure Investigation (EI) number will be generated for each outbreak and provided to pharmacies with other pertinent patient information by Alberta Health Services PH.

Please treat antiviral prescriptions as a priority and dispense them in a manner that meets the needs of the client; for example, in compliance packaging if required. When billing through the APHAP, there should be no charge to the Eligible Person for any antiviral prescription costs.

## **Claim Processes**

To receive compensation for eligible antiviral prescriptions (including those for Nat-Oseltamivir 75 mg\*), claims must include the following data elements:

- Carrier Code 16 (as the third party plan)
- · Group 23464
- · Section 000
- · Pharmacy License number
- · Pharmacist Identification Number
- Client ID number: Client's Personal Health Number (PHN). In the case of Albertans with no PHN, such as persons in homeless shelters, HL0000000 must be used.
- · Client's full name: last and first name
- · Client's date of birth

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- · Client's gender
- Relationship Code: Should your software require you to enter a relationship code, select zero (0) as the default
- · Prescriber Reference ID Number
- Service date
- DIN
- Quantity
- Payment amount (medication cost, upcharges and dispensing fee)
- Prescriber Reference Code: 86
- El number in the format YYYYXXX entered into the Special Authorization field, left justified with no hyphen. Claims without the El number will be rejected with the response code **CZ No record of authorization number**. (YYYY is the year when the outbreak was declared by the MOH and XXX is the number of the investigation as provided by Alberta Health Services.)

In the rare instance when no commercial Tamiflu or Nat-Oseltamivir products are suitable or available, an oseltamivir compound may be claimed using the Pseudo Identification Number (PIN) 00999999.

Claims for antiviral prescriptions (including Nat-Oseltamivir) billed to other Government of Alberta drug plans, such as Coverage for Seniors (Group 66), are not eligible for coverage.

## \*The following Nat-Oseltamivir product is eligible for coverage as of June 1, 2017:

DIN	Product description	Price allowed per capsule
00002457989	Nat-Oseltamivir 75 mg Capsule	\$3.1178

## When you have questions:

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at:

**780-498-8370** (Edmonton and area) • **403-294-4041** (Calgary and area) • **1-800-361-9632** (toll free) **FAX 780-498-8406** (Edmonton and area) • **FAX 1-877-305-9911** (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims. **Visit https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php** 



