

Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue durée



Ontario Public Drug Programs

Programmes publics de
médicaments de l'Ontario

Office of the Executive Officer
and Assistant Deputy Minister

Bureau de l'administratrice en chef
et sous-ministre adjointe

Hepburn Block, 9th Floor
80 Grosvenor Street
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1R3
Tel.: 416-327-0902
Fax.: 416-325-6647
www.ontario.ca/health

Édifice Hepburn, 9^e étage
80, rue Grosvenor
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1R3
Tél. : 416 327-0902
Télééc. : 416 325-6647
www.ontario.ca/sante

Re: OHIP+: Children and Youth Pharmacare

Beginning January 1, 2018, the province will provide drug coverage for children and youth who are covered by OHIP and aged 24 years and under, regardless of family income. With the introduction of OHIP+, the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) program will be expanded to include children and youth.

Similar to seniors, enrollment will be automatic based on age and OHIP coverage; patients only need to have their health card number and a valid prescription to receive an eligible drug product or professional pharmacy service free of charge at an Ontario pharmacy.

OHIP+ will cover all drugs currently covered through the ODB program. This includes more than 4,400 drug products listed on the ODB Formulary. OHIP+ will also cover additional drugs through the **Exceptional Access Program (EAP)** under specific clinical circumstances. To access medications through EAP, doctors or nurse practitioners have to submit a request to the ministry on the patient's behalf. EAP requests are reviewed on a case by case basis. To help guide prescribers in the EAP request process, the attached EAP list represents drugs that have been recently considered for EAP funding.

How to Make an EAP Request on your patient's behalf:

In order to ensure that children and youth have seamless coverage for medications beginning January 1, 2018 prescribers are encouraged to submit EAP requests for children/youth **before January 1, 2018**, or as soon as possible afterwards. The ministry is anticipating greater EAP volumes and staff have been deployed to ensure timely assessments.

A shorter EAP form has been developed for some commonly prescribed medications. This streamlined process is intended to help minimize EAP assessment delays for patients who have been stabilized on certain medications that require an EAP assessment prior to January 1, 2018.

EAP streamlined forms can be accessed at www.forms.ssb.gov.on.ca/

- **Form Number:** 014-5067-87E
- **Title:** OHIP+ Eligible Recipient Request for an Unlisted Drug - Exceptional Access Program

There are three (3) ways to submit the OHIP+ EAP Streamlined Request Form:

1. Fill it out electronically, and then print and fax it to **1-844-227-6590**.
2. Select a drug from the form's drop down menu and complete the form by hand. Once the form is complete, fax the form to **1-844-227-6590**.
3. **Mail** it to Ontario Public Drug Programs at:

Ontario Public Drug Programs
Drug Programs Delivery Branch
3rd Floor, 5700 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M2M 4K5

Medications listed on the Streamlined Form include:

- Alcohol Addiction Therapy (acamprosate, naltrexone)
- Alfacalcidol (drops)
- Atomoxetine
- Betahistine
- Buspirone
- Cabergoline
- Colchicine
- Cortisone acetate (tablet)
- Dornase alfa
- Hormone Therapy (conjugated estrogen, estradiol, progesterone, testosterone)
- Iron dextran or iron sucrose
- Ketotifen
- Lamotrigine (chew)
- Levocarnitine
- Lithium carbonate ER
- Metoclopramide (liquid)
- Modafinil
- Multiple Sclerosis Therapy (Aubagio, Avonex, Betaseron, Copaxone, Extavia, Rebif, Tecfidera)
- Mycophenolate mofetil
- Ondansetron
- Oxcarbazepine
- Phenobarbital
- Phytonadione & Multivitamin (injections)
- Pinaverium
- Prochlorperazine (suppository)
- Sodium Bicarbonate
- Somatropin
- Tranexamic acid
- Triptans (almotriptan, naratriptan, rizatriptan, sumatriptan)
- Valacyclovir
- Vigabatrin (sachet)

If the medication you are requesting is not listed above, a full EAP request form can be accessed from the streamlined form by selecting "other" in the drop down menu.

OHIP+ and Insurance Coverage

The Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association (CLHIA), its member insurance companies and the Ontario government want to help ensure that no one age 24 years and under with private insurance experiences a gap in coverage on January 1, 2018. To this end, we have been working together and from January 1 – June 30, 2018 private insurers are assisting with coverage for some drugs that may otherwise be considered under the EAP without first requiring an EAP rejection letter.

The kinds of EAP drugs insurance carriers will continue to consider from January 1 to June

30, 2018 without first requiring an EAP rejection fall into three categories:

1. *Antibiotics* (and anti-infectives, including antiviral and antifungal agents)
2. *Blood thinners* (low molecular weight heparins)
3. *Drugs with low Exceptional Access Program approval rates*

Examples of drugs with low EAP approval rates as noted in category three above include:

Generic Name or Category	Examples of Product Names
ALLERGY MEDICATIONS (HYDROXYZINE HCL, LORATADINE, TRIAMCINOLONE ACETONIDE)	Atarax, Claritin, Nasacort AQ
BENZYDAMINE HCL	Pharixia
GLYCOPYRROLATE	Glycopyrrolate Inj 0.2mg/mL
HYOSCINE BUTYLBROMIDE	Buscopan
LEUKOTRIENE RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS (MONTELUKAST SODIUM, ZAFIRLUKAST)	Singulair 5mg, 10mg, Accolate
MIDAZOLAM	Midazolam Inj 5mg/mL
OMEPRAZOLE	Losec DR 10mg
SAPROPTERIN DIHYDROCHLORIDE	Kuvan
TRANSDERMAL HORMONE THERAPY (ETHINYL ESTRADIOL & NORELGESTROMIN, ESTRADIOL 17-B, NORETHINDRONE ACETATE & ESTRADIOL-17B)	Evra, Estrogel, Estradot, Estraderm, Estalis
ZOLMITRIPTAN	Zomig

Please note: The above list represents some of the more common drugs with low EAP approval rates that have been identified through private insurance claims for children/youth in the past year. Some of these drugs or different strengths/formulations of the above are also available on the ODB Formulary (some as Limited Use).

Starting on July 1, 2018, private insurers will require patients to be assessed and denied funding through the EAP before they will consider covering the drug. For individuals accessing the above medications during the transition period, regular deductibles and co-payments will still apply under the patient's private insurance plan.

If you have questions:

Please contact us at OHIPplus@ontario.ca

To contact EAP:

E-mail: EAPFeedback.MOH@ontario.ca

Phone: 416-327-8109 or 1-866-811-9893

Fax: 416-327-7526 or 1-866-811-9908