

December

Dear: Healthcare Professional

Re: Changes to Approved Quantities of Blood Glucose Test Strips Policy

Effective January 1st, 2016, approved quantities for Blood Glucose Test Strips (BGTS) will change from a rolling 365-day period to a calendar year (January to December). This change will simplify the ability to track and monitor BGTS quantities and better aligns with other Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Programs. Each individual patient BGTS quantities will refresh on January 1st, 2016.

We ask for your assistance in communicating this change with your patients when you next see them for their diabetes management.

Table 1: Approved Quantity Per Calendar Year

Treatment	Notes	Annual Approved Quantity (Jan.1- Dec. 31)
Managing diabetes with insulin	This higher quantity applies whether or not you are also taking other diabetes medications	3,650 strips
Managing diabetes with medication (s) with a higher risk of causing hypoglycemia	Examples: gliclazide (Diamicon®), glyburide (Diabeta®), nateglinide (Starlix®), repaglinide (Gluconorm®)	400 strips
Managing diabetes with medication(s) with a lower risk of causing hypoglycemia	Examples: acarbose (Glucobay®), linagliptin (Trajenta®), metformin (Glucophage®), pioglitazone (Actos®), saxagliptin (Onglyza®), sitagliptin (Januvia®)	200 strips
Managing blood sugars through diet/lifestyle therapy		200 strips

Need more information about this or other Drug Plan program benefits?

Visit <http://formulary.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca> or call the Drug Plan at: 1-800-667-7581 or 306-787-3317 in Regina