

## PHARMACIST PRESCRIBING OF COVID-19 ORAL ANTIVIRAL (i.e., PAXLOVID™)

Effective May 19, 2022, pharmacists are temporarily authorized to prescribe Paxlovid™ to eligible patients.

A public news release will be issued Thursday, May 19, and will be posted with the regular [Government of Saskatchewan News and Media releases](#). A list of participating prescribing AND dispensing pharmacies, as well as a list of dispensing ONLY pharmacies will be posted on the government website at the following link: [www.saskatchewan.ca/paxlovid-pharmacies](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/paxlovid-pharmacies) (this website will go live at 2 pm on May 19).

The **Paxlovid™ Distribution Prescribing and Assessment - Process and Billing Instructions** document has been posted on the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) secure website: <https://www.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca>. It will also be posted early next week on the [Saskatchewan Formulary website](#) under the COVID-19 Immunization Program tab.

Pharmacies will be eligible for the following fees:

Service	Details	pseudoDIN/DIN	Fee
<b>Minor Ailment Fee: Covid-19 (Paxlovid™) (MAF-P)</b>	When a pharmacist under the “Minor Ailment Program” issues a Paxlovid™ prescription.	00951375	\$18.00
<b>*Paxlovid™ Ineligibility/Referral Assessment Fee: Pharmacist Prescriber (IRAF-P)</b>	The patient initially meets eligibility criteria but upon further review of the patient’s medical and/or drug history, the pharmacist determines that the patient is no longer eligible for Paxlovid™ or remdesivir. <b>OR</b> The patient initially meets eligibility criteria but the pharmacist determines they are not eligible for “pharmacist prescribing,” but rather require further escalation to the SHA Specialized Early COVID Therapeutics Team to receive either Paxlovid™ or other, more suitable treatment (e.g., remdesivir).	00951376	\$18.00
<b>*Paxlovid™ Ineligibility/Referral Assessment Fee: Other Prescribers (IRAF-O)</b>	Pharmacist assesses a prescription issued by another healthcare provider and determines that the patient is ineligible and/or requires escalation to the SHA Specialized Early COVID Therapeutics Team to receive Paxlovid™ or other, more suitable treatment (e.g., remdesivir).	00951377	\$18.00
<b>*Paxlovid™ Distribution Fee (PDF)</b>	When Paxlovid™ has been distributed to an eligible patient by the pharmacy.	02524031	\$20.00

\*These fees are unique to Paxlovid™ and are not eligible in conjunction with any other DPEBB professional service programs.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) have been posted on the DPEBB secure website: <https://www.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca>. They will also be posted early next week on the [Saskatchewan Formulary website](#) under the COVID-19 Immunization Program tab.

There are various resources available to assist pharmacies with Paxlovid™. medSask has many resources available on their website: <https://medsask.usask.ca/professional-practice/paxlovid-hcp/prescribing-paxlovid-for-covid-19.php>. MedSask will also be able to assist you over the phone (1-800-667-3425 or 306-966-6340 in Saskatoon) or via e-mail ([druginfo@usask.ca](mailto:druginfo@usask.ca)).

It is not too late to join, any pharmacy that is interested in prescribing or distributing Paxlovid™ just needs to register with the DPEBB by emailing [DPEBimmunizations@health.gov.sk.ca](mailto:DPEBimmunizations@health.gov.sk.ca).

If you have any questions, please contact the Drug Plan at [DPEBimmunizations@health.gov.sk.ca](mailto:DPEBimmunizations@health.gov.sk.ca).

**Thank you for your support as we continue to navigate through COVID-19.**