

# Other Programs

## New Drug Funding Program (NDFP)

- Covers certain approved intravenous cancer drugs administered in hospitals or regional cancer centres.

## Visudyne Program

- Covers the full cost of the drug Verteporfin, which slows the advancement of age-related eye conditions (macular degeneration).

## Inherited Metabolic Diseases (IMD) Program

- Covers the full cost of certain outpatient drugs, supplements and specialty foods used to treat metabolic disorders.

## Private Insurance

- Some private insurance programs may cover drugs not covered by the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program.

# Prescription-related tips

- Pharmacies offer a variety of services (example, free medication delivery and reduced co-payments for older adults). Ask about available services that meet your needs.
- Obtain all prescriptions from one pharmacy to prevent harmful interactions and side effects.
- MedsCheck allows you to schedule a free, annual discussion with a pharmacist for up to 30 minutes to discuss all your prescription, over-the-counter and alternative medications.
- First-time prescriptions usually include a maximum 30-day supply. This minimizes waste if the drug is not suitable.
- Pharmacies allow vacation supplies if you are leaving the province for 100 days or more. Prescriptions can be filled for up to 200 days. Extra co-payments may apply.
- Always carry a list of your medications (prescription, over the counter, supplemental). Take the list when leaving for vacation. Include generic names in case you need to replenish your supply (example, loss of luggage, longer stay than planned).

# Resources

## Local Pharmacists and Physicians

Can help you with information and applications.

## Ontario Ministry of Health

.....1-866-532-3161

[www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca)

## Ontario Drug Programs Help Desk

.....1-866-532-3161

# Coverage of Drug Costs



2022

# Fast Facts

Older Adult Advisory Committee (OAAC)

For more information, visit [www.halton.ca](http://www.halton.ca) or call 311.



[halton.ca](http://halton.ca) 311



## Programs

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has four major programs to help cover the costs of drugs. Your pharmacist can help with information and your application.

### 1. The Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program

#### Eligibility (one of the following)

- Age 65 or older with a valid Ontario Health Card.
- A resident of a long-term care or speciality care home.
- Those receiving professional services from Community Care Access Centre of Halton (home care.)
- Recipients of The Trillium Drug Program.
- Those receiving social assistance.

#### What is covered?

- More than 3,800 prescription drugs.
- Some limited-use drug products.
- Some nutritional products.
- Some diabetic testing products.

Costs: Older adults with higher incomes are required to pay an annual \$100 deductible starting August 1 of each year. After the deductible is completed, they are only required to pay a maximum \$6.11 copay for eligible prescriptions for the remainder of the year.

Older adults with lower incomes have copays of up to \$2 for eligible prescriptions. If you feel you should be considered low income, forms are available at Ontario pharmacies or by calling 1-866-532-3161.

### 2. The Trillium Drug Program (TDP)

#### Eligibility (all of the following)

- High prescription drug costs relative to household income.
- Current private insurance does not cover 100 per cent of prescription drugs.
- Have valid Ontario Health Insurance (OHIP).
- Not eligible for coverage under the ODB Program.

#### What is covered?

- More than 3,800 prescription drugs
- Some nutritional products
- Some diabetic testing products
- Various prescription drugs not covered under the ODB Program

Costs: An individual's deductible is based on income and family size (about 4 per cent of your household's combined net income). The deductible is split into four equal amounts over the year starting on August 1. They pay for prescriptions equal to one quarter of the deductible in a three month period and then pay up to \$2 for each prescription thereafter.

How to apply: Call 1-800-575-5386

### 3. The Exceptional Access Program (EAP)

#### Eligibility

- Eligible for the Ontario Drug Benefit or Trillium Drug programs.

#### What is covered?

When there are no other treatments or there are newly approved drugs, the cost of drugs not covered by the ODB Program may be covered by EAP. A physician must submit the request.

Costs: Similar to other programs, co-payment and deductibles may apply.

Questions: Call 1-866-532-3161 or email [EAPFeedback.MOH@ontario.ca](mailto:EAPFeedback.MOH@ontario.ca)

### 4. The Special Drugs Program (SDP)

#### Eligibility

- Ontario resident with valid OHIP.
- Meet established clinical criteria or are approved by a designated centre or physician for a specific drug. A physician must submit the request.
- Patient with one of the following diseases, conditions or corresponding medications:
  - cystic fibrosis
  - lung disease
  - blood disease (Thalassaemia)
  - HIV positive (Zidovudine and Pentamidine)
  - anemia (Erythropoietin)
  - solid organ or bone marrow transplant (Cyclosporine)
  - children with growth failure (human growth hormone)
  - schizophrenia (Clozapine)
  - Gaucher's disease

Costs: There is no deductible or co-payment.

Questions: Call 1-866-532-3161