



Team Name: Palliative Care Team Team Lead: Regional Director, Seniors/Palliative Care Approved by: Executive Director - West	Reference Number: CLI.5910.PL.003 Program Area: Palliative Care Policy Section: General
Issue Date: July 27 2015 Review Date: Revision Date: January 25, 2017	Subject: Palliative Care Drug Access Program

POLICY SUBJECT:

Palliative Care Drug Access Program

PURPOSE:

The Provincial Palliative Care Drug Access Program (PCDAP) is designed for people at the end stages of their illness, when the focus of care is on comfort. The PCDAP provides deductible-free coverage through Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors.

Once the application has been processed by Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors, the costs of all eligible drugs prescribed by a physician will be covered. When filling their prescriptions at the pharmacy of their choice, individuals enrolled in the program will no longer be charged for their prescribed eligible medication.

By covering the cost of eligible drugs for use in the home or in another residence, a major financial burden is removed for the patient and their family.

This policy describes the process to apply for the PCDAP in Southern Health-Santé Sud.

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE:

Executive Limitation (EL-2) Treatment of Clients

POLICY:

Patients will have access to the Provincial Palliative Care Drug Access Program through the regional Palliative Care Program.

To be eligible for the PCDAP, the individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a resident of Manitoba.
2. Have a current Manitoba Health registration number.
3. Be registered with the Regional Palliative Care Program.
4. Have a prognosis of six (6) months or less.
5. Require prescribed eligible pharmaceuticals to support the palliative care plan.
6. Primary pharmaceutical needs are for comfort-focused care.
7. Understand and agree with the plan for comfort-focused care.

Medications and items not covered are:

- Drug expenses incurred before the patient is registered in the program.
- Medications that are not listed on the Manitoba Formulary.
- Nutritional supplements.
- Any supplies required that are available through other health services such as the Home Care Program.
- Medications for palliative patients who are in publicly funded facilities such as acute care hospitals, long-term care facilities and psychiatric hospitals.

Patients may not be enrolled on more than one provincial drug program at any given time. For example, this means that if the client is receiving benefits through the Manitoba Home Cancer Drug Program, he/she may not be enrolled on the PCDAP.

PROCEDURE:

To apply for the PCDAP:

1. Confirm the patient's registration with the Regional Palliative Care Program. If the patient is not registered with the regional palliative care program, complete the Palliative Care Referral form CLI.5910.PL.001.FORM.01.
2. The PCDAP, appended as CLI.5910.PL.003.FORM.01, is completed and signed by the primary care provider and the patient applying, or his/her guardian, legal representative or parent.
3. Forward all required forms to the regional Palliative Care Program.
4. The regional Palliative Care Program will review the application(s) to determine if eligibility criteria have been met. If eligibility criteria are met, the program will forward the application to the Provincial Drug Program for approval.
5. Once approval is received from the Provincial Drug Program the Regional Palliative Care Program will notify the patient and/or the guardian and the primary care provider regarding the approval and enrollment.
6. Patients can obtain their medications from their pharmacy of choice and should tell the pharmacist that they are enrolled on the PCDAP.

To discontinue enrollment on the PCDAP:

1. The regional Palliative Care Program will send notification of a patient's ineligibility (in the event of status or condition change) or death to the Provincial Drug Program as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- All Part 1 and Part 2 products as listed by the Manitoba Drug Benefits Formulary are considered eligible for reimbursement by the PCDAP. In addition, a number of specific products for this client population are also considered eligible benefits. See CLI.5910.PL.003.SD.01 "Appendix A Palliative Care Drug Access Program – Drug Product Listing".
- The need to indicate "Meets Exception Drug Status (EDS)" for products listed in Part 2 of the Manitoba Drug Benefits Formulary remains necessary.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

[CLI.5910.PL.001.FORM.01](#)
[CLI.5910.PL.003.FORM.01](#)
[CLI.5910.PL.003.FORM.01.F](#)
[CLI.5910.PL.003.SD.01](#)

Palliative Care Referral Form
Palliative Care Drug Access Program Application
Palliative Care Drug Access Program Application - French
Palliative Care Drug Access Program – Drug Product Listing

REFERENCES:

Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors. *Palliative Care Drug Access Program*. Retrieved on-line March 3, 2015 at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pcdap/index.html>.