



Ministry
of
Health

Ontario

bulletin

Bulletin number	Date	Direct inquiries to
4229	June 18, 1990	Ontario Drug Benefit Program P.O. Box 68 Kingston, Ont. K7L 5K1 613-548-6572/416-965-9451 (address below)
Distribution	Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories	

Subject PRESCRIPTION QUANTITIES

Under the Prescription Drug Cost Regulation Act, 1986, the pharmacist will dispense the entire quantity of the drug prescribed at one time. It is, therefore, not necessary to write a prescription in one month quantities with repeats. If you determine that your patient requires medications for an extended period of time, the prescription may be written for a quantity sufficient for that period and it will be so dispensed.

The patient may request, in writing, that a lesser quantity be supplied or there may be some valid reason where it is appropriate to supply the drug in smaller quantities, for example, in the case of unstable products. In such cases the pharmacist may determine, in his or her professional judgement, that a valid reason exists.

For most persons eligible for Ontario's Drug Benefit (ODB), for example, virtually all senior citizens resident in Ontario, the Ministry will reimburse a pharmacy for a quantity of approved prescribed medications sufficient for up to a 250 day course of treatment.

Provision of the full amount of medication, as determined by the prescriber will be convenient for the patient and more economical for the Ministry. This larger supply will be especially helpful to persons who have been stabilized on long term therapy for chronic conditions. Physicians may continue to prescribe a smaller quantity, with repeats at certain intervals, when it is in the patient's best interest. The legislation places the responsibility for determining quantities of medications to be dispensed in the hands of the prescriber.

If your patients (especially seniors) have any difficulty in obtaining the quantity of medication prescribed, they should be advised to contact the Ontario Drug Benefit Program at:

Ministry of Health
Ontario Drug Benefit Program
P.O. Box 68
Kingston, Ontario, K7L 5K1
Telephone: (613) 548-6572
(416) 965-9451

Further information on prescription quantities is also available from:

The Ontario College of Pharmacists
483 Huron Street
Toronto, Ontario, M5R 2R4
Telephone: (416) 962-4861

Office locations

Barrie
30 Poyntz St.
L4M 3P2

Hamilton
119 King St. W.
P.O. Box 2280, Stn. A
L8N 4C8

Kenora
100 Main St. S.
P9N 1S9

Kingston
1055 Princess St.
P.O. Box 9000
K7L 5A9

Kitchener
Canada Life Square
Main Floor
235 King St. E.,
N2G 4N5

London
227 Queens Ave.
P.O. Box 5700
Terminal A
N6A 4L6

Mississauga
201 City Centre Dr.
P.O. Box 7020, Stn. A
L5A 3M1

Oshawa
Exec. Tower, Osh. Ctr.
419 King St. W.
P.O. Box 635 L1H 8L4

Ottawa
Fuller Building
75 Albert Street
K1P 5Y9

Owen Sound
981 2nd Avenue E.
N4K 2H5

Peterborough
Park Lane Plaza
815 High Street
K9J 8J9

St. Catharines
59 Church St.
3rd Floor
L2R 3C3

Sarnia
452 Christina St. N.
N7T 5W4

Sault Ste. Marie
205 McNabb St.
2nd Floor, Ste. 205
P6B 1Y3

Sudbury
199 Larch St., 8th Floor
P3E 5R1

Thunder Bay
435 James St. S.
P.O. Box 5000 P7C 5G6

Timmins
38 Pine St. N., 101 Mall,
Ste. 110 P4N 6K6

Toronto
2195 Yonge St. at
Eglinton, P.O. Box 1700
Stn. A M5W 1G9

Windsor
1427 Ouellette Ave.
N8X 1K1

Head Office
P.O. Box 38
Kingston, Ont.
K7L 5J2