

## ***The WCB's role***

The WCB is ultimately responsible for adjudication of all claims. If a worker's prescription drug is not approved online at the pharmacy, the WCB will review any information submitted by workers or their physicians for further consideration. The WCB will also review and monitor usage of the prescription direct-pay program. Although the WCB continues to determine entitlement under direct-pay program for prescriptions, Medavie Blue Cross (MBC) provides the infrastructure for the program. Therefore, all payments for prescriptions will be issued by MBC on the WCB's behalf.

## **Prescription Drug Program, Direct-Pay**



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# ***Prescription Drug Program Direct-Pay***

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*For more information:*

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## Prescription Drug Program, Direct-Pay

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**The Workers Compensation Board of PEI (WCB) has adopted a prescription drug program that will be available at all pharmacies throughout the Atlantic provinces.**

**The goal of this program is to ensure that workers receive quality and timely service for drug coverage in the event of a workplace injury or illness. The program also ensures coverage for prescription drugs that treat the work-related condition.**

### ***How does it work?***

1. The worker will take the prescription related to his/her workplace injury to a pharmacy.
2. The worker will identify himself/herself by providing his/her correct claim number and exact name and date of birth.
3. If the prescribed drug is approved for the work-related injury, then it will be dispensed to the worker at no cost.

### ***What happens when direct payment of a prescription drug is denied?***

Direct payment of a prescription could be denied for several reasons:

- The prescribed drug does not match the assigned drugs for the worker's injury or illness.
- The worker's claim number, date of birth, first or last name does not match that on the system.
- WCB has not yet accepted the worker's claim.

When direct payment for a prescription is denied, the worker may choose to pay for the prescription and then submit the official receipt to the WCB for review. If it is determined that the drug is covered by the WCB, the worker will be reimbursed. The worker will be advised in writing if the WCB determines that the drug prescribed is not covered for the injury or illness.

### ***The Worker's role***

It is vital that the worker provide the pharmacist with their correct claim number, name and date of birth each time they have a prescription filled. If the worker does not have all of this information, it may be obtained from the WCB prior to visiting the pharmacy.

### ***The Pharmacy's role***

The pharmacist obtains the claim number, name and date of birth from the worker and transmits this information, along with the details of the prescription, for online approval. If approval is granted, the pharmacist will dispense the prescribed drug at no cost to the worker. All approvals will be done online; the pharmacist will not be able to obtain approval any other way.

### ***The Prescriber's role***

The WCB pays for drugs that are prescribed by a health care provider who is legally able to prescribe, and that are appropriate for the compensable injury or illness. This includes prescribed over-the-counter medications. If the prescribed drug is not approved for coverage by the WCB, then the worker may request the prescriber to submit information to the WCB for review and consideration as to whether the specific medication relates to the treatment of the work-related injury or illness.