



# BENEFITS NEWS

## Launch of the Preferred Pharmacy Network

Starting January 1, 2017, the Manitoba Public School Employees Benefit Plans will include a preferred pharmacy network for prescription drugs. This new feature of your Health plan is being introduced to help you save money on prescription drugs, to offer the convenience of free home delivery for maintenance drugs and to make it easier for you to manage your condition and be healthier. All of this for no extra cost to you – and it is up to you, if you would like to use the network.

## How does it work?

The preferred pharmacy network consists of two pharmacies – Costco Pharmacy for short-term prescriptions and Express Scripts Canada (ESC) Pharmacy<sup>®</sup> for long-term prescriptions (i.e., maintenance drugs).

### How do you save if you use these two pharmacies?

1. You will only pay **10%** of the prescription drug cost (the Health plan will cover 90% of the cost instead of 80% – that is a 10% higher reimbursement from when you use other pharmacies).
2. You pay lower dispensing fees (from as low as **\$4.50** at Costco to **\$9** with ESC – other pharmacies charge **\$9.25** to **\$14**). Your plan's dispensing fee cap is \$7, so if you fill your prescriptions at Costco you will not be out-of-pocket, and if you use ESC Pharmacy<sup>®</sup>, you will only be \$2 out-of-pocket.
3. ESC fills up to a **90-day** supply of prescription drugs, so if you take a maintenance drug you will only pay one dispensing fee every three months instead of three dispensing fees if you were to fill up to a 30-day supply over three months.
4. You also have the option of substituting a **lower-cost alternative** drug if you and your doctor agree this is the right course of action for you.

## Costco Pharmacy

For a prescription for antibiotics or any other prescription drug for short-term use that needs to be filled right away, the Costco Pharmacy is the place to go. If you are going to Costco anyway for one of your weekly grocery trips, you might as well fill a prescription at the same time and mark two items off of your "to do" list. You do not have to be a Costco member to fill a prescription and benefit from the low dispensing fees.

## Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy<sup>®</sup>

If you are currently taking a maintenance drug to treat a chronic condition, such as asthma, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and others, the Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy<sup>®</sup> can fill the majority of your prescriptions within 48 hours. Some of its many advantages include free delivery to your doorstep in Canada, refill and renewal reminders so you don't forget to fill your prescriptions and an auto refills service to take care of all of this for you. Plus, you have the comfort of knowing pharmacists are on call 24/7 if you have any questions or concerns.

## What happens next?

Also included with this newsletter is information on how to sign up for the Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy<sup>®</sup>, as well as contact information if you have questions.



Pharmacy care you need,  
convenience that matters  
and an additional 10% in  
your pocket.

Start benefiting from the  
**Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy<sup>®</sup>** today!

We are pleased to introduce the Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy, an exciting new component to our drug plan that will bring you greater convenience, value, peace of mind and help save you time.

They are dedicated to helping you achieve better health outcomes with a host of services that can make managing your condition simpler.

- ✓ Free delivery in Canada
- ✓ Refill and renewal reminders
- ✓ On-call pharmacists 24/7
- ✓ Request transfers and refills online
- ✓ Worry-free Auto refills service
- ✓ Up to a 90-day supply

## Good news!

Maintenance medications filled through the Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy will be covered at 90% after **January 1, 2017**. This is 10% more than you will receive if you purchase your prescription drugs at another pharmacy.

Designed for people who take maintenance medications for chronic conditions like asthma, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and others, the Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy can fill the majority of your prescription medication needs.

## Joining is easy:

All you need to have on hand is your health benefits card and any maintenance medications you are currently taking. That's it!

To learn more, visit our dedicated company page on their website at [express-scripts.ca/mpse](http://express-scripts.ca/mpse) or call their Member Contact Centre toll-free at 1 855 550-MEDS (6337).

We sincerely hope you will take advantage of this convenient service.

Please note: Initial sign up must be completed on a laptop or desktop device. Tablets and mobile devices can be used to access your member profile on their portal after you have joined.

