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June 7, 2019

Mr. Jason Falk, External Relations/Government Relations Chair
Pharmacists Manitoba
90 Garry Street, Suite 201
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4H1

Re: Adjustments to Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Dispensing Fees in Manitoba

Dear Mr. Falk,

We are pleased to announce that the maximum NIHB dispensing fee in Manitoba will increase to \$14.00 on August 1, 2019, and by 2% in each of the subsequent three years, as reflected in the following schedule:

Prescription Drugs (Schedule I and II drugs): Usual and customary fee (U&C) up to a maximum of

- \$14.00 for the period August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020
- \$14.28 for the period August 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021
- \$14.57 for the period August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022
- \$14.86 for the period August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023

Over-the-Counter Drugs (Schedule III and Unscheduled drugs) and **Diagnostic Agents & Supplies** (products such as diabetic needles and syringes, blood glucose test strips): U&C up to a maximum of

- \$7.00 for the period August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020
- \$7.14 for the period August 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021
- \$7.29 for the period August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022
- \$7.43 for the period August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023

The increase in the dispensing fee for prescription drugs will also affect the fees associated with refusal to fill, extemporaneous mixtures, and methadone for the treatment of opioid use disorder, in accordance with NIHB Program policies, as outlined in the NIHB Guide for Pharmacy Benefits and/or otherwise communicated by NIHB. All claims for NIHB compensation must be in conformity with the terms and conditions of the Express Scripts Canada Pharmacy Provider Agreement for the NIHB Program.

Please share the information regarding the new rates with the members of Pharmacists Manitoba. NIHB will also send a fax to individual NIHB pharmacy service providers.

Sincerely,



Rolina P. van Gaalen
Manager, Negotiations Secretariat
Non-Insured Health Benefits
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch