

# REIMBURSEMENT OF PHARMACIST'S PROFESSIONAL FEES FOR PATIENTS UNDER THE PUBLIC SERVICE HEALTH CARE PLAN (PSHCP) OF CANADA

Patients with group insurance regulated by the federal government do not benefit from coverage for certain professional services offered by the pharmacist. Therefore, it is the patient who must pay the pharmacist's professional fees.

## 01. What clinical activities are not covered by the PSHCP and require payment by patients?

- Prescription adaptation
- Prescription extension
- Drug substitution
- Administration of a drug for teaching purposes
- Care after hospitalization

## 02. How are the fees determined for these services?

In the case of the services mentioned above, the fee charged is the same for all patients, regardless of the insurance plan or the pharmacy. In other cases such as the filling of a prescription, the professional fees are determined by the owner pharmacist and include all direct and indirect expenses related to the professional service and the maintenance of the operations of the pharmacy.

## 03. Why do people insured by the PSHCP have to pay these fees when it is not the case for people insured by other private plans or by the Quebec Prescription Drug Insurance Plan?

These professional fees are billed to all patients but are covered by the RAMQ and by all private insurance plans subject to the Act respecting prescription drug insurance. Since the federal government is not required to comply with this law, not all the same medications and professional services are necessarily covered. Consequently, it is the patient who must pay the fees.