

Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care Public Health 300 Carlton Street Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3B 3M9

October 1, 2024

Re: Manitoba Prescription Birth Control Program Update

Dear Health Care Provider:

As announced on August 22, 2024, Manitoba is providing coverage of prescription birth control at no cost for eligible Manitobans, effective October 1, 2024. The Manitoba Prescription Birth Control Program (MPBCP) will ensure that all individuals with a valid Manitoba Health Card and without 100 per cent coverage under another provincial or federal plan will be eligible to receive prescription birth control at no cost.

Important points about the MPBCP:

- Any Manitoban with an active Manitoba Health Card who does not have 100 per cent coverage through federal or alternate provincial programs is eligible. Clients enrolled in the Manitoba Pharmacare program, or eligible to enroll in the Manitoba Pharmacare Program, <u>are</u> eligible for MPBCP.
- An application to enroll clients in this program is not required.
- The program covers oral contraceptive pills, intrauterine devices, hormonal implants, and contraceptive injections. A list of products currently covered under MPBCP is available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/contraceptives.html#covered
- Prescription birth control is also covered for non-contraceptive use.
- The program will cover one dispensing fee per three-month period for oral contraceptive pills, and one dispensing fee per month for non-oral contraceptive pill medications.
- Medications covered under MPBCP are covered up to the cost of the lowest cost generic in a category as set out in the Manitoba Drug Interchangeability Formulary.

Program details are available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/contraceptives.html

Additional program information (including the Claims Submission Procedure – MPBCP for pharmacies, and a Frequently Asked Questions – Health Professionals document) will be available here: https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/healthprofessionals.html

Please share this information with all relevant colleagues.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer Chiarotto Executive Director Population and Public Health