

## Prescription Drug Information

Since 1975 Saskatchewan Health has operated the Saskatchewan Drug Plan to provide financial assistance to eligible residents for prescription drugs that are benefits of the Drug Plan. As part of the program, information has been collected about prescriptions to determine a resident's eligibility for benefits, and as a record of payments made by the Drug Plan.

In 2004, the Drug Plan was enhanced to collect information on all prescriptions dispensed from community pharmacies, including those that were not previously collected under the Drug Plan.

The purpose for collecting information on all prescriptions is to build a history of prescriptions dispensed to all persons in Saskatchewan. This will be used to ensure individuals and their health care providers have the information needed to make the best decisions about their health care.

## Safeguarding the Information

Saskatchewan Health takes great care to protect the personal health information under its control. Information is kept in strict confidence, and is only used or disclosed as authorized by law.

The protections outlined in *The Health Information Protection Act* (HIPA) apply to the prescription information being collected.

Safeguards are in place to protect the prescription information. Policies, procedures, and computer systems are designed to protect the information from unauthorized use, error, or loss.

## Data Collection and Use

The prescription information is being collected under the authority of *The Prescription Drugs Act*. This Act requires pharmacists to collect the prescription information and to submit it to Saskatchewan Health. It also provides specific purposes for which the collected information may be used.

### These include:

- discontinuing, reducing or controlling the inappropriate use of drugs
- prohibiting or controlling abuses of drugs; and
- planning, monitoring and delivering treatment to patients/clients.

### The information collected includes:

- your Health Services Number or other identifying information;
- certain information about your prescription, including the date dispensed, the drug, the quantity of drug, the prescriber, and the pharmacy.

### QUESTIONS:

**If you have questions, or would like a printout of your prescription history, please contact:**

**Saskatchewan Health  
Drug Plan & Extended Benefits Branch  
3475 Albert Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan S4S 6X6**

**In Regina: 787-3317**

**In Saskatchewan: 1-800-667-7581**

**Fax (306)787-8679**

**[www.health.gov.sk.ca](http://www.health.gov.sk.ca)**



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