

Behind the Scenes at the Newfoundland and Labrador Prescription Drug Program (NLPDP)

Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee (PAC)

The Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee (PAC) is a new committee developed by the Department of Health and Community Services. Reporting to The Pharmaceutical Services Liaison Committee and The Physician Services Liaison Committee, PAC will provide a forum for the discussion of pharmaceutical-related issues and the development of advisory recommendations.

The scope of PAC includes providing input with respect to initiatives related to prescribing, dispensing, use, or coverage of pharmaceuticals, and to identify and address areas where efforts could be made to positively influence pharmaceutical utilization.

The membership will include:

- Two members from each of the following:
 - Department of Health and Community Services, Pharmaceutical Services Division
 - Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association
 - Pharmacists Association of Newfoundland and Labrador
- One member from each of the following:
 - Newfoundland Medical Board
 - Newfoundland Pharmaceutical Association

The Newfoundland and Labrador Interchangeable Formulary

The Newfoundland and Labrador Interchangeable Drug Products Formulary is a listing of drugs which have chemical and therapeutic equivalence. All drugs listed in the Formulary have met the requirements of the Health Protection Branch of Health and Welfare Canada, and the Department of Health and Community Services NL, for equivalence and interchangeability between brand name and generic products.

This Formulary was established by regulation. The objective of the legislation is to assist the residents of NL in obtaining prescription drugs of acceptable quality at reasonable prices. Prices published in the Formulary apply to all residents of Newfoundland and Labrador.

New categories in the Jan1/2004 edition include:

- Alendronate 10mg tabs
- Amcinonide Cream
- Bisoprolol 5mg and 10mg tabs
- Carbamazepine 100mg and 200mg Chewtabs
- Carvedilol 3.125mg, 6.25mg, 12.5mg, and 25mg tabs
- Etidronate sodium 200mg tabs
- Fosinopril sodium 10mg and 20mg tabs
- Paroxetine 20mg and 30mg tabs

Benefit Listing Update

Additions (open benefit):

Monocor (and Rhoxal-bisoprolol) 5mg and 10mg tabs