

NOTICE TO PHARMACISTS AND PRESCRIBERS

RE: MIRAPEX AND GENERIC PRAMIPEXOLE

The Department has been advised by Boehringer Ingelheim that Mirapex (pramipexole dihydrochloride) has been approved for sale in Canada for two separate indications:

- (1) The symptomatic treatment of idiopathic Parkinson's Disease and
- (2) The symptomatic treatment of moderate to severe idiopathic restless legs syndrome.

The Notice of Compliance (NOC) issued to Novopharm for Novo-Pramipexole and to Pharmascience for pms-Pramipexole indicates that the generic pramipexole dihydrochloride is indicated only for:

- (1) The treatment of the signs and symptoms of idiopathic Parkinson's disease.

The Department intends to move Mirapex, Novo-Pramipexole and pms-Pramipexole from Part 1 to Part 2 of the *Specified Drugs Regulation* with the next Drug Bulletin with the criteria:

- (1) The symptomatic treatment of idiopathic Parkinson's disease.

In that regard, please note that Mirapex, Novo-Pramipexole and pms-Pramipexole are benefits through Provincial Drug Programs only when prescribed for the treatment of idiopathic Parkinson's disease.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions please call Provincial Drug Programs at Manitoba Health at (204) 786-8000 or 1-800-663-7774.