

Nova Scotia Pharmacare Program Comparison

For the most up to date information or to receive an enrolment package, contact Pharmacare:

- Phone: 496-5680 (local) or 1-800-305-5026 (toll free)
- Fax: (902) 468-9402
- or visit www.nspharmacare.ca

Program	Benefits	Eligibility	Enrolment	Cost
Seniors' Pharmacare*	Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary	-NS resident with valid NS Health Card, -Age 65 years and over, - No drug coverage through any other public or private plan that covers most of their medications and supplies after their 65th birthday	Packages are mailed to residents with a valid NS Health Card approximately three months prior to their 65th birthday.	Premium: Calculated based on income, the maximum annual premium a senior would pay is currently \$424. If in receipt of the Guaranteed Income Supplement there is no premium. Copay: 30% of the total cost of each prescription to a maximum of \$382. Deductible: None
Family Pharmacare*	Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary.	-NS resident with valid NS Health Card, -Agree to family income verification through Canada Revenue Agency each year and to provide family size information each year.	Each family completes only one registration form.	Premium: None Copay: 20% of the total cost of each prescription to an annual maximum based on a family's size and annual income. Deductible: Maximum set depending on a family's size and annual income.
Department of Community Services Pharmacare Benefits*	Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary.	-Employment Support and Income Assistance (ESIA) clients -Services for Persons with Disabilities -Children in the care -Low Income Pharmacare for Children	For ESIA clients, please contact the caseworker. If not yet an ESIA client, call Community Services at 1-877-424-1177.	Premium: None Copay: Contact the office of community services at 1-877-424-1177 (maximum copay \$5/prescription). Deductible: None
Under 65 Long Term Care (LTC)*	Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary	-NS resident with valid NS Health Card, -under age 65 -resident of a LTC facility -no access to, or coverage under, another public or private drug plan	The LTC facility shall provide written notification to Pharmacare Programs.	No cost for approved medications.
Assistance for Cancer Patients Program	Drugs/supplies used in the management of cancer, and assistance for boarding and transportation	Diagnosed with cancer and: -NS resident with valid NS Health Card, -A gross family income no greater than \$35,000 per year, and -No drug coverage under any other drug program, except Family or Seniors' Pharmacare.	A registration form and a copy of the most recent Income Tax Notice of Assessment or Reassessment from Canada Revenue Agency.	No cost for approved medications. Note: only covers specific medications used in the management of cancer. Helps eligible residents undergoing cancer treatment with assistance for costs related to boarding, transportation, and ostomy supply needs.
Palliative Care Drug Program (PCDP)	Certain drugs needed for end-of-life symptom management indicated in the Palliative Formulary	Assessed by the local Palliative Care Consultation Team to be in the end-stage of a terminal illness with an anticipated prognosis of less than six months and: - NS resident with valid NS Health Card, - receiving end-of-life care in the home (their own, family or LTC)	Once assessed and approved by the local Palliative Care Consultation Team the Medication Authorization Form must be sent to the Pharmacare office.	No cost for approved medications. Note: only covers specific medications used for symptom management in end-of-life care based on the pan Canadian Gold Standards for Palliative Home Care

*The programs with an asterisk have very similar formularies which also contain some medications used for symptom management in end-of-life care.