

## Hepatitis C Treatment Drug Coverage for Patients in BC Corrections

The Ministry of Health’s Pharmaceutical, Laboratory and Blood Services Division (PLBSD) has received several requests to improve the process for providing PharmaCare coverage for the treatment of Hepatitis C in the BC Corrections context. As a solution, coverage will be provided under PharmaCare Plan Z (Assurance) using the existing Special Authority (SA) process.

- Plan Z provides no-cost coverage to all BC residents with active Medical Services Plan (MSP).
- Coverage under Plan Z is specific to the patient, not to a particular pharmacy or location, and provides continuity of coverage and treatment in community in the case of release from Corrections mid-treatment.
- This coverage will be specific to Hepatitis C treatment drugs.
- Due to PharmaNet limitations, manual work is required when processing the SA to ensure proper adjudication under Plan Z.

### Special Authority Process for Adjudication under Plan Z

#### SA requests from BC Corrections:

- The inmate’s prescriber and clinical team will mark the SA request form with “Corrections” to identify that the application is for an individual incarcerated in a BC correctional facility.
  - For the paper form, this will be done by writing “Corrections” in the Section 5 – Additional Comments section of the paper form; or
  - For the e-form, this will be done by selecting the “Additional Details” tab and in the “Additional Comments” field writing “Corrections”, as shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1**  
**Special Authority Request**

Red asterisks indicate mandatory fields.

1. Complete Patient and Prescriber details:

⊞ Patient Information

⊞ Prescriber Information

Expand Prescriber Information panel to ensure all mandatory fields are complete

Select medication: \*

velpatasvir/sofosbuvir (Epclusa) 100/400mg with or without ribavirin 200mg, 400mg, 600mg

Instructions Fibrosis Stage Genotype Regimen and Duration Requested File Upload **Additional Details**

Additional Comments (optional):

Corrections

Cancel Previous

Submit

- The prescriber and clinical team will send the SA request to the Ministry of Health’s SA team.

#### Plan Z Adjudication process:

- Once the SA team receives the SA request for the incarcerated individual, the SA approval will be entered to prompt adjudication under Plan Z.
- As Plan Z is last in the adjudication order in PharmaNet, the SA team must manually exclude any other active PharmaCare plans for the individual that are higher in the order.
- The SA team will inform the prescriber once the SA request has been processed.

#### **For Patients in Corrections not enrolled in MSP:**

PharmaCare will provide Plan Z exceptional coverage to all inmates who require treatment for Hepatitis C and do not have MSP coverage. This is in support of the public health initiative to prevent the spread of the disease.

#### **Special Authority Process for Adjudication under Plan ZE**

##### SA requests from BC Corrections:

- Similar to the Plan Z process, the inmate's prescriber and clinical team will mark the SA request form with "Corrections" to identify that the application is for an individual incarcerated in a BC correctional facility.
- The prescriber and clinical team will send the SA request for temporary exceptional coverage to the Ministry of Health's SA team with the SA application for coverage of the Hepatitis C treatment. These would then be processed together.
- The SA team will inform the prescriber once the SA request and application for coverage have been processed.