

## **Assistance for Cancer Patients Programs Information**

Your Nova Scotia MSI Health Card is used for identification purposes for Assistance for Cancer Patients Programs. Please ensure that you indicate your Nova Scotia Health Card number on all correspondence.

Complete information regarding Assistance for Cancer Patients Programs can be found at:  
[www.novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare](http://www.novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare)

### **Boarding, Transportation and Ostomy Program**

The Boarding, Transportation and Ostomy Program provides aide for eligible Nova Scotia residents who are undergoing treatment for cancer with costs assistance for boarding, transportation and ostomy supplies. The following benefits may be considered under this program:

- Boarding cost for residents who must travel more than 50 km one-way from home to the treatment centre.
- Transportation cost: \$0.45/km for residents who use a personal vehicle to travel between home and treatment center or the cost for patients using a bus, shuttle or community transportation.
- Ostomy supplies

Any questions on processing Boarding and Transportation claims can be directed to **1-888-894-5353**. Claims must be submitted within six (6) months from the date of service to be considered for reimbursement.

### **Client Reservations**

Once an appointment is scheduled, clients can call toll free at **1-888-894-5353** to arrange reservations for accommodations and travel.

### **Client Escorts**

Escort costs will not be covered unless pre-approved. The costs for client escorts who are considered essential may be covered. Escort costs will not be covered unless pre-approved. A letter must be submitted from the patient's physician indicating a reason why an escort is necessary.

### **Ostomy Supplies**

Ostomy supplies which are listed as benefits in the *Nova Scotia Formulary* are insured under the program. These must be submitted electronically by your pharmacy. Any questions regarding ostomy claims can be directed to **1- 800-544-6191**.

### **Drug Assistance for Cancer Patients**

The Drug Assistance for Cancer Patients pays for drugs and devices which are indicated as benefits in the *Nova Scotia Formulary*.

Benefits include chemotherapeutic agents, pain medications, antiemetic agents, and laxatives for use with chronic opioid therapy. Some medications are considered exception status drugs and require a prescriber's request for approval. Other agents that are directly related to a patient's cancer therapy can be considered by the Pharmacare Office upon receipt of a written request from the prescriber.

Any questions regarding Drug Assistance for Cancer Patients benefits can be directed to **1-800-544-6191**.