## PHARMACY **BENEFACT**

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS®

# **Ukrainian Evacuee Temporary Health Benefits Program**

Ukraine evacuees arriving in Alberta on February 24, 2022, or after (those who have evacuated Ukraine or cannot return to Ukraine), will be covered under the Ukrainian Evacuee Temporary Health Benefits Program (UETHBP).

This program will provide temporary coverage to Ukrainian evacuees who do not qualify for registration and coverage under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP) and Hospital Benefits Plan or other public health benefits because they are not considered residents or deemed residents, as defined in the Alberta Health Care Insurance Act. In the coming weeks, evacuees will be enrolled to receive the benefits provided in the Alberta Adult Health Benefit (AAHB) or Alberta Child Health Benefit (ACHB) supplementary plans.

Alberta Health requests your support in providing pharmacy services to Ukrainian evacuees who are without a Personal Health Number (PHN), medical history or active health benefit coverage. Evacuees may present for pharmacy services before they are enrolled with the UETHBP, receive a PHN or have active health benefit coverage.

#### DISPENSING FOR EVACUEES

If a Ukrainian evacuee presents to your pharmacy with an active prescription, please do the following:

- Confirm the prescription is a regular benefit within the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL) or Human Services Drug Benefit
  Supplement (HSDBS) under the AAHB or ACHB category: ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/idbl\_main1.php.
- Dispense the prescription as per normal pharmacy procedures and **retain the receipt**.
- As health benefit coverage is not active, do not request payment from the evacuee.
   o Coverage under the AAHB or ACHB will be facilitated and available in the days ahead for active billing.
- In the interim, pharmacies will be reimbursed for the medication(s) dispensed to an evacuee. The process for reimbursement is under development.
  - o **Note**: reimbursement will only be provided for drug products found within the ADBL and/or the HSDBS and will follow dispensing rules or frequencies of the AAHB or ACHB supplementary plans.

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#### **PHARMACY SERVICES**

- If a Ukrainian evacuee presents to your pharmacy without an active prescription, a pharmacist who has been granted additional prescribing authority may prescribe to initiate drug therapy, as appropriate, and/or manage ongoing drug therapy OR a pharmacist may utilize prescribing in emergency, as appropriate.
- Pharmacies will be reimbursed for providing clinical services as per the Ministerial Order for Pharmacy Services
  Compensation Plan. Only the clinical services listed above will be reimbursed. The process for reimbursement is under
  development.
- · COVID-19, influenza and any other vaccine administration will be solely supported through Alberta Health Services.

Alberta Health anticipates a limited number of Ukrainian evacuees requiring pharmacy services, and the current process outlined in this Benefact will be a short-term solution.

If a pharmacy provides pharmacy services to an evacuee, please ensure you have the most appropriate or current contact information, as your pharmacy team may need to contact the evacuee once the reimbursement process is established.

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area) 403-294-4041 (Calgary and area) 1-800-361-9632 (toll free) FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area) FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free) Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims.

Visit ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php



