

Better service for better outcomes

PayDirect: Electronic payment for prescription medication

One less thing to worry about.

The WCB of Nova Scotia's new **PayDirect** program is an evolution of service to injured workers. Prescriptions related to workplace injury and illness are now covered at no out-of-pocket expense to injured workers. The program is administered by Medavie Blue Cross on behalf of WCB.

A worker's claim number on an approved WCB claim can simply be presented at any pharmacy in Nova Scotia when a prescription is filled. Payment will occur for approved prescription medication. If there's a problem, pharmacists can provide a sheet of possible issues and solutions.

Pay directly at the point of sale for your prescriptions as you recover from your workplace injury

In most cases, with a valid WCB claim number, there is no need for injured workers to pay for prescriptions and submit the receipt to the WCB for reimbursement.

Common questions and answers about the program are on the reverse. This information is also available on our website,

at wcb.ns.ca, which will be kept updated with current information about the **PayDirect** program.

Frequently-asked questions:

PayDirect

How does all this work?

It's simple. In a service improvement to injured workers, approved prescription drugs related to a workplace injury are now covered at no out-of-pocket expense to the worker, under a program administered by Medavie Blue Cross.

Prescribed medications and some over-the-counter medications (when prescribed by a doctor) that have been approved for a given claim are available for electronic payment. For some workers, medical supplies used in the delivery of a drug, such as inhalation devices, may also be paid electronically.

In all cases, a doctor's prescription is required for the item to be paid through **PayDirect**.

Does this mean I pay for drugs using a Medavie Blue Cross card?

No. **PayDirect** is separate from Medavie's other insurance programs. WCB workers will not be issued a Medavie Blue Cross identification card. The worker will identify their eligibility to the pharmacy through presentation of their WCB claim number for verification.

Are the same drugs still covered under WCB policy?

Yes. WCB policy with regard to covering prescription medication is not changing. Administration of prescription payments is simply automated, in order to improve service.

If for some reason an electronic payment does not go through, the worker may need to pay for the prescription and contact the WCB. We will investigate the issue and work to resolve it. Pharmacies in Nova Scotia also have been provided with material to provide to workers who have questions at the point of sale.

I don't have a claim number yet but I got hurt at work, and I need a prescription. Will this be covered?

A WCB claim number is required. Until a worker has a WCB claim number, that worker will need to pay for prescriptions as they normally would, and submit the receipt with WCB.