

Palliative Care Drug Program Formulary

If you have any questions please phone: (902) 496-5680, Toll Free 1-800-305-5026, or visit <http://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/palliative-drug-program.asp>. For those with other insurance (e.g. private, NIHB, DVA, etc.), the Palliative Care Drug Program (PCDP) is the payer of last resort. The list of drugs covered under the PCDP is based on the pan-Canadian Gold Standards for Palliative Care. The table below illustrates the medications that are listed as **full benefits** in the PCDP.

Legend:

* = also listed in other Pharmacare Programs as a full benefit (e.g. Seniors', Family, Community Services)

** = also listed in other Pharmacare Programs as an exception status drug with criteria

Analgesics	
Non-Opioid	
Acetaminophen	
NSAIDs	
All NSAIDs normally insured in the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs (NSPP) Formulary.	
Opioids	
All opioids normally insured in the NSPP Formulary. For example:	
Codeine products including acetaminophen combinations*	Morphine*
Oxycodone IR*	Hydromorphone IR* and CR*
Other opioids, such as:	
Fentanyl**	Tramadol
Methadone**	Oxycodone CR
Others (not listed) to be used in exceptional cases in the absence of other options.	
Misc Analgesics	
Ketamine	Xylocaine*
Mexiletine*	
Anticoagulants and Coagulants	
Anticoagulants	
Heparin sodium*	Warfarin*
Rivaroxaban**, dabigatran**, apixaban**	Low molecular weight heparins as normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.
Coagulants – Antifibrinolytic Agents	
Tranexamic acid tablets*, injectable	
Anticonvulsants	
All anticonvulsants normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Antidiarrheals	
All antidiarrheals normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	Bismuth subsalicylate
Antiemetics	
Dexamethasone tablet*, injectable*	Metoclopramide oral*, injectable*
Dimenhydrinate 50mg/mL injectable*, oral, suppository	Octreotide* – As a last resort only
Domperidone*	Ondansetron**
Granisetron**	Promethazine
Anti-infectives	
Antifungal (oral/topical/vaginal preparations)	
All antifungals normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Antimicrobials	
All antimicrobials normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Antivirals	
All antivirals normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	Acyclovir ointment, injectable
Antipruritics	
Diphenhydramine	Hydroxyzine**
Antispasmodics	
Atropine*	Baclofen tablets*, injectable

Benztropine*	Dantrolene*
Hyoscyamine*	Scopolamine parenteral*, patch, oral*
Dicyclomine*	Phenazopyridine
Oxybutynin tablets regular*, XL**	
Bone Metabolism Regulators	
Clodronate*	Pamidronate
Zoledronic acid**	
Central Nervous System Stimulants	
Methylphenidate*	
Congestive Heart Failure Therapy	
All ACE inhibitors, antianginals, and beta blockers normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	Carvedilol**
Diabetic Agents	
All diabetic agents normally insured in the NSPP Formulary (including insulin).	
Diuretics	
All diuretics normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
H₂ Blockers and Proton Pump Inhibitors	
All H ₂ blockers and Proton pump inhibitors normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Hemorrhoid Therapy (Ointment and Suppositories)	
All hemorrhoid therapies normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Laxatives	
Bisacodyl	MicroLax enema
Lactulose	Magnesium citrate
PEG	Magnesium hydroxide
Fleet enema	Senna
Glycerin	
Psychiatric Medication	
Antidepressants	
All antidepressants normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Antipsychotics (This category excludes depot injections.)	
All antipsychotics normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Anxiolytics/Hypnotics	
All anxiolytics/hypnotics normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Respiratory System Therapy	
Bronchodilators	
All bronchodilators normally insured in the NSPP Formulary, such as:	
Salbutamol – inhaler*, bulk solution*, nebulas**	Ipratropium – inhaler* and nebulas**
Theophylline*	Tiotropium**
Various long-acting combination inhalers (e.g. Advair)**	
Inhaled Corticosteroids	
Beclomethasone*	Fluticasone*
Budesonide – inhaler* and nebulas**	Mometasone furoate*
Ciclesonide*	
Antitussives	
Codeine syrup*	Hydrocodone syrup
Steroids	
All steroids normally insured in the NSPP Formulary.	
Wound care	
Fucidin (topical)*	Silver sulfadiazine (topical)*
Metronidazole (topical)*	
Other	
Glycopyrrolate*	Potassium chloride*
Digestive enzymes*	Simethicone
Megestrol*	CADD Cassette (PIN 00999970)