Nova Scotia Pharmacare Program Comparison

For the most up to date information or to receive an enrolment package, contact Pharmacare:
-  Phone: 496-5680 (local) or 1-800-305-5026 (toll free)
-  Fax: (902) 468-9402
-  or visit [www.nspharmacare.ca](http://www.nspharmacare.ca)

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| Seniors’ Pharmacare*                         | Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary                  | - NS resident with valid NS Health Card,  
- Age 65 years and over,  
- No drug coverage through any other public or private plan that covers most of their medications and supplies after their 65th birthday | Packages are mailed to residents with a valid NS Health Card approximately three months prior to their 65th birthday. | Premium: Calculated based on income, the maximum annual premium a senior would pay is currently $424. If in receipt of the Guaranteed Income Supplement there is no premium.  
Copay: 30% of the total cost of each prescription to a maximum of $382.  
Deductible: None |
| Family Pharmacare*                          | Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary                  | - NS resident with valid NS Health Card,  
- Agree to family income verification through Canada Revenue Agency each year and to provide family size information each year. | Each family completes only one registration form.                                            | Premium: None  
Copay: 20% of the total cost of each prescription to an annual maximum based on a family’s size and annual income.  
Deductible: Maximum set depending on a family’s size and annual income. |
| Department of Community Services Pharmacare| Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary                  | - Employment Support and Income Assistance (ESIA) clients  
- Services for Persons with Disabilities  
- Children in the care  
- Low Income Pharmacare for Children | For ESIA clients, please contact the caseworker.  
If not yet an ESIA client, call Community Services at 1-877-424-1177. | Premium: None  
Copay: Contact the office of community services at 1-877-424-1177 (maximum copay $5/prescription).  
Deductible: None |
| Benefits*                                   |                                                                          |                                                                                                |                                                                                            |                                                                      |
| Under 65 Long Term Care (LTC)*              | Drugs/supplies indicated as benefits in the NS Formulary                  | - NS resident with valid NS Health Card,  
- under age 65  
- resident of a LTC facility  
- no access to, or coverage under, another public or private drug plan | The LTC facility shall provide written notification to Pharmacare Programs. | No cost for approved medications. |
| Assistance for Cancer Patients Program       | Drugs/supplies used in the management of cancer, and assistance for boarding and transportation | Diagnosed with cancer and:  
- NS resident with valid NS Health Card,  
- A gross family income no greater than $25, 500 per year, and  
- No drug coverage under any other drug program, except Family or Seniors’ Pharmacare. | A registration form and a copy of the most recent Income Tax Notice of Assessment or Reassessment from Canada Revenue Agency. | No cost for approved medications.  
Note: only covers specific medications used in the management of cancer.  
Helps eligible residents undergoing cancer treatment with assistance for costs related to boarding, transportation, and ostomy supply needs. |
| Palliative Care Drug Program (PCDP)          | Certain drugs needed for end-of-life symptom management indicated in the Palliative Formulary | Assessed by the local Palliative Care Consultation Team to be in the end-stage of a terminal illness with an anticipated prognosis of less than six months and:  
- NS resident with valid NS Health Card,  
- receiving end-of-life care in the home (their own, family or LTC) | Once assessed and approved by the local Palliative Care Consultation Team the Medication Authorization Form must be sent to the Pharmacare office. | No cost for approved medications.  
Note: only covers specific medications used for symptom management in end-of-life care based on the pan Canadian Gold Standards for Palliative Home Care |

*The programs with an asterisk have very similar formularies which also contain some medications used for symptom management in end-of-life care.*

Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs  
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