NEW MEASURE MODIFYING THE QUANTITY OF REIMBURSABLE BLOOD GLUCOSE TEST STRIPS

Since May 3, 2017, the quantity of blood glucose test strips that may be reimbursed under the Public Prescription Drug Insurance Plan (PPDIP) is subject to certain rules.

Who does this affect?
Anyone covered by the PPDIP is affected.

Why the changes?
This new measure is aimed at ensuring optimum use of medications and follows recommendations from the Institut national d’excellence en santé et en services sociaux (INESSS). According to INESSS, limiting the maximum number of strips in keeping with the clinical situation of insured persons is a sound approach to optimizing their use. In fact, this class of medications is among the most prescribed and costly. Several Canadian provinces have already implemented a similar measure.

What are the limits to the number of reimbursable strips?
The quantity of reimbursable test strips is determined according to an insured person’s clinical situation, i.e., it is adjusted according to the person’s risk of hypoglycemia. Since May 3, 2017, the maximum number is established per 365-day period, from the date of the first purchase of strips.
LIMITS TO THE NUMBER OF REIMBURSABLE STRIPS ACCORDING TO THE CLINICAL SITUATIONS OF INSURED PERSONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAXIMUM NUMBER</th>
<th>CLINICAL SITUATIONS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>• Diabetic persons treated by a change in lifestyle</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Diabetic persons treated with an antidiabetic other than a sulfonylurea*, repaglinide** or insulin</td>
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<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>• Diabetic persons treated with a sulfonylurea* or repaglinide**, but who are not receiving insulin</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 000</td>
<td>• Persons treated with insulin</td>
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* Sulfonylurea: Glyburide-Diabeta™, Gliclazide-Diamicron™, Glimepiride-Amaryl™, tolbutamide or chlorpropamide

** Repaglinide: GlucoNorm™

In special clinical situations, the health professional in charge of a person’s follow-up can allow him or her to be covered for additional strips per 365-day period.

**Exception:**

Starting November 15, 2017, the cost of strips will also be reimbursed to persons not suffering from diabetes, but facing certain rare clinical situations with a risk of possibly serious symptomatic hypoglycemas.

To find out if you are facing one of these situations, talk to your doctor.

November 2017