

New pharmaceutical acts

Following the adoption of Bill 28, in April, all pharmacists in the province of Quebec can now offer **7 new pharmaceutical acts** since June 20 2015.

Quebec government and the AQPP (Association Québécoise des Pharmaciens Propriétaires) came to an agreement on June 19 concerning the remuneration of these new activities. The terms of this agreement will not be shared until the ACPP presents the agreement to its members.

However, it has been confirmed that **4 of the 7 activities will be remunerated** and covered by Quebec Health Insurance, which means that these will also be covered by private health insurance plans for Quebec residents.

The 4 remunerated activities are the following:

- Extending prescriptions
- Adjusting prescriptions to achieve therapeutic targets
- Prescribing a medication when no diagnosis is required
- Prescribing a medication to treat minor conditions when the diagnosis and the required treatments are known

The 3 other activities must be offered for free by the pharmacists:

- Substituting the prescribed medication for another medication from the same therapeutic subclass, in case of a shortage of product
- Prescribing and analyzing laboratory tests
- Administering a medication to demonstrate the proper usage

Even if the pharmacists have the right to perform these new activities since last June 20, we still do not know the tariffs associated to the 4 remunerated activities for the private insurance sector. Until then, we strongly invite the insured to **keep their receipts** for amounts paid for one of these acts.

We follow attentively the developments in this situation and we will keep you informed about the impacts of this legislative modification in the medical insurance coverage for Quebec residents.

