# Drug Plan and Extended Benefits
# Saskatchewan Ministry of Health

Pharmacy Information
Bulletin No. 729
April 21, 2020

## VIRTUAL VISITS USING PEXIP DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC
## REGISTRATION FOR PHARMACISTS

On March 13, 2020, the Ministry of Health announced virtual appointment (Virtual Care) options for patients and physicians due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Virtual Care option has been expanded to provide pharmacists with an IT tool to facilitate patient consultations virtually.

Pexip is the approved videoconferencing software solution for face-to-face collaboration with patients using a PC, laptop, tablet or mobile device. Funding for Pexip for Saskatchewan health care practitioners will be provided by the Ministry for a period of one year, commencing March 20, 2020.

**Policy:**
The Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) will remunerate pharmacies for eligible services provided through Virtual Care consultations using Pexip, effective April 20, 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic.*

**Eligible Services:**
The DPEBB authorizes registered pharmacists to use Pexip for the following:

- annual and follow up assessments under the Saskatchewan Medication Assessment Program (SMAP);
- medication assessments under the Medication Assessment and Compliance Packaging Program (MACPP);
- as an alternative to in-person consultations for Minor Ailment prescribing; and
- Partnership for the Cessation of Tobacco (PACT) program.

**Payment Process:**
Pharmacies will:

- Submit existing professional services fee codes via the DPEBB claims system for eligible services delivered by Virtual Care using Pexip. **Paper claims for these fees will not be accepted.**
- Indicate "COVID-19 Pexip" on the program documentation form.

***The DPEBB will conduct a post-COVID policy evaluation to determine if remuneration will continue for these Virtual Care services.**

Pharmacists are encouraged to use Pexip for other patient care such as counselling on prescriptions that might be delivered to the patient or picked up by a family member, or when a face-to-face interaction with a patient is needed for other reasons.

# PEXIP REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR PHARMACIES AND/OR PHARMACISTS

1. Pharmacies and/or pharmacists will complete the Pexip Registration Form available on:
   - the secure DPEBB WEB page at https://www.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca; or
   - the *Application Forms* tab on the on-line Formulary at http://formulary.drugplan.ehealthsask.ca/AppForms; or
   - the *What's New* tab on the on-line Formulary at http://formulary.drugplan.ehealthsask.ca/News.

   Note: Save the completed form on your computer before emailing.

2. Submit the completed form to the DPEBB via:
   - Email: DPEBagreements@health.gov.sk.ca – SUBJECT: "PEXIP" ; or
   - Fax: 306-798-2022.

3. The DPEBB submits all approved requests to eHealth Saskatchewan (eHS).

4. eHS will email the requesting pharmacy or pharmacist to complete the registration process.

5. Upon approval of registration, the pharmacy or pharmacist will receive a welcome package via email from "My Telemerge Video", which will include information on how to activate your account and user guides.

6. Pexip Support:
   - For pharmacists:
     - eHS Service Desk at ServiceDesk@eHealthsask.ca or 1-888-316-7446
   - For patients:
     - Telemerge Support 1-844-302-8780

Note: Pharmacists and pharmacies will not receive a confirmation of registration email from DPEBB.

## Who to Contact

If you have any questions, email the DPEBB at DPEBagreements@health.gov.sk.ca or call 306-787-3317 (Regina) or 1-800-667-7581 (toll-free).