



## Notification of Administrative Changes – EXCEPTIONS POLICY

The Government of the Northwest Territories' *Extended Health Benefits Policy (Specified Disease Conditions and Seniors programs)* and the *Métis Health Benefits Policy* will implement changes to the administration of s.2(1) of the *Extended Health Benefit Policy Schedule 2. Drug Benefits* with respect to the **Request for Exceptions** process.

Request for Exceptions is an application to have a drug product covered that is not listed on the NWT formulary.

The current practice will continue for Request for Exceptions applications to be adjudicated on a case-by-case bases.

Requests for Exceptions must be renewed annually. When a new, suitable drug product is added to the formulary that treats the condition covered under the Exception, the Request for Exception may be denied in preference for the listed drug product.

Changes to the administration of the Request for Exceptions include:

- Drug products eligible for coverage must have a positive recommendation by the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH).
  - For greater certainty, drug products that have received a recommendation of “Do not reimburse” or “Do not list” or have been withdrawn from CADTH assessment are **not eligible for reimbursement**.
- Drug products under negotiation and/or that have had unsuccessful negotiation at the Pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) are not eligible for coverage.

The administrative changes will come into effect March 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 for new exception requests and April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 for renewals of current exceptions.

<original Signed by>  
Director of Medical Insurance

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Date