



## HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES' UNION

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**PROVINCIAL OFFICE:**

5000 North Fraser Way, Burnaby, BC V5J 5M3 • TEL: 604-438-5000 • FAX: 604-739-1510 • WEB: [www.heu.org](http://www.heu.org)

July 2, 2014

Dear physician or pharmacist,

In 2013, my Pacific Blue Cross drug coverage changed so as to tie-in to the BC government's Fair Pharmacare program, which links my drug coverage to the list of drugs covered by the government program.

Please take this change of coverage into account when you recommend a course of treatment for my dependents and me. Please prioritize drugs that are covered, if appropriate. If you are recommending a choice of drug options, please advise me of the ones which are covered.

Link to Fair Pharmacare coverage (including benefit lookup tool):

<https://pcbl.hlth.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/benefitslookup/>

Some drugs are only available through Fair Pharmacare if the physician completes a Special Authority form. As a physician you will have a clear idea of whether a Special Authority drug will likely be approved for a given patient, as the specific criteria for each drug are listed on the forms. Please take this into account upfront, and please suggest alternatives to me in advance where there is a chance the Special Authority will be denied.

Pacific Blue Cross has been advised that physicians should not charge patients for completion of the Special Authority forms.

Special Authority forms:

<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/sa/criteria/formsindex.html>

This letter was written and distributed by my union, the Hospital Employees' Union, in order to assist members get the most out of their drug coverage.

Thank you for your understanding.