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October 24, 2018

To all private pharmacy operators in Manitoba:

**Re: Revised HIV/HBV/HCV Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Protocol and HIV Starter Kits**

Please be advised that Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) has released today a new, updated **Post-exposure Prophylaxis for HIV, HBV and HCV: Integrated Protocol for Managing Exposures to Blood and Body Fluids in Manitoba** ([www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/protocol/pep.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/protocol/pep.html)).

This new protocol follows the current best practice of giving three antiretroviral (ARV) drugs at all times (that is, no more risk stratification), where HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) is indicated. It also espouses use of the more tolerable ARV drugs tenofovir, emtricitabine and raltegravir, where appropriate.

In line with this protocol change, MHSAL has changed its HIV PEP starter kits to contain various combinations of the following drugs, depending on client age, weight and renal status:

- Truvada® or generic equivalent (emtricitabine combined with tenofovir)
- 3TC® (lamivudine)
- Combivir® (lamivudine combined with zidovudine)
- Retrovir® (zidovudine)
- Isentress® (raltegravir)
- Kaletra® (lopinavir-ritonavir)

The new kits contain enough supply for **three days** of PEP. If PEP is to be continued for the full 28-day course, the additional drug supply over those provided in the starter kit shall be prescribed by the follow-up care provider, who may use for this purpose the preprinted form inserted in the kits and also available for download at [www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/protocol/hiv\\_prescription.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/protocol/hiv_prescription.pdf).

*Please note that as a result of the aforementioned program changes, you may see an increase in prescription for the following drugs:*

- Tenofovir/Emtricitabine (Truvada® or generic equivalent) 300/200 mg tablet**
- Raltegravir (Isentress®) 400 mg tablet**

Sincerely,

Richard Baydack, PhD  
Director

Richard Rusk, MD  
Medical Officer of Health