

Minor Ailment Assessment Service

Suggested Fee Guide

Description

Part A pharmacists, pharmacists (emergency assignment), and interns or pharmacy students under the direct supervision of a Part A pharmacist, with the requisite knowledge, clinical skills and professional judgement necessary to provide the service, are authorized in Ontario to assess and, where appropriate, prescribe certain medications for approved minor ailments.

In general, Minor Ailment Assessment services should include:ⁱ

- Obtaining informed consent (verbal or written) from the patient or their substitute decision-maker, to provide a minor ailment assessment service.
- Collecting and reviewing all relevant patient information to assess and confirm the patient's self-diagnosis of the minor ailment.
- Determining and implementing through shared decision-making a care plan (i.e., referral, providing education, recommending/prescribing a drug if applicable and/or recommending non-pharmacological therapy).
- Documenting the service and notifying the patient's primary healthcare provider (if any) within a reasonable time frame if an allowable medication is prescribed.
- Following up with the patient (or their substitute decision-maker) to establish monitoring parameters, evaluate the safety and efficacy of the care plan, and additional next steps as required.

Examples of what is **NOT** included in this service:

- Minor ailment assessments conducted for patients that are eligible for funding under the publicly funded minor ailment program
- Minor ailment assessments provided to residents of long-term care (LTC) homes through their contracted primary pharmacy service providers
- A medication review
- Disease and medication therapy management
- Prescription adaptation and/or renewal services
- Any costs or fees associated with the recommended or prescribed treatment(s)

(Note: Refer to [OPA's Suggested Fee Guide for Uninsured Clinical and Professional Pharmacy Services](#) for descriptions and more information about the above.)

Suggested Fee

\$45

Professional Minor Ailment Assessment Service Fee

Rationale

The suggested fee is informed by three considerations: the estimated cost of service delivery, the average remuneration provided under publicly funded minor ailment programs across Canada, and the suggested approach from other healthcare professional associations to determine physician fees for uninsured services. It is provided as guidance only; pharmacists remain responsible for determining a fee that is fair, reasonable, and appropriate within their individual practice settings.

The suggested fee is intended to reflect the required time, clinical expertise and professional judgement and accountability associated with providing this service to patients. In Canada, publicly funded remuneration for in-person pharmacist-led minor ailment assessments currently ranges from approximately \$19 to \$25 depending on the jurisdiction (specifically \$19 in Ontario).ⁱⁱ Guidance from medical associations for physicians on determining suggested fees for uninsured healthcare services in Canada commonly recommends the use of a multiplier (ranging from 2 to 5) applied against the current fee for the comparable publicly funded service.^{iii,iv,v,vi,vii} Specifically, in Ontario, the 2026 multiplier to calculate the Ontario Medical Association suggested fee for an uninsured clinical service is 2.9.[†] As such, the suggested fee of \$45 for a pharmacist-led minor ailment assessment is consistent with suggested fee determinations for uninsured physician services and represents a fair value for the professional expertise and clinical services provided by pharmacists when assessing and managing minor ailments.

Additional Resources

Legislative Resources:

- [O. Reg. 256/24 under the Pharmacy Act, 1991](#)
- [Updated Questions and Answers for Funding for Minor Ailment Services in Ontario Pharmacies](#)

Ontario Pharmacists Association Resources:

- [Minor Ailments Webpage](#)
- [Minor Ailment Infographic Tool](#)
- [Pharmacy Invoice Template](#)
- [Prescribing for Minor Ailments Course](#)

Ontario College of Pharmacists Resources:

- [Minor Ailments Prescribing Webpage](#)
- [Treating Minor Ailments Infographic](#)
- [Mandatory Orientation Module on Minor Ailments Prescribing](#)
- [Minor Ailments: Drug Classes and Specified Drugs \(Schedule 4 of O. Reg. 256/24\)](#)
- [Drugs Eligible for Prescribing Under Schedule 4 of O. Reg 256/24](#)
- [Pharmacist Prescribing: Initiating, Adapting and Renewing Prescriptions Guideline](#)

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References

- i. Ministry of Health. Executive Officer Notice: Update to Funding for Minor Ailment Services in Ontario Pharmacies. Published May 19, 2026. Accessed June 18, 2026. <https://www.ontario.ca/files/2026-05/moh-executive-officer-notice-minor-ailments-en-2026-05-19.pdf>
- ii. Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy. 2025 CFP Services Chart. Published October 15, 2025. Accessed June 18, 2026. https://cfpnet.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/CFP_2025-Services-Chart_EN.pdf
- iii. Alberta Medical Association. Billing for out-of-country patients. Accessed June 18, 2026. <https://www.albertadoctors.org/news/publications/billing-tips/billing-for-out-of-country-patients/>
- iv. Ontario Medical Association. 2026 Schedule of Fees: OMA Suggested Fees for Uninsured Services. Accessed June 18, 2026. <https://www.oma.org/siteassets/oma/media/pagetree/pps/billing/uninsured-services/schedule-of-fees-suggested-uninsured.pdf>
- v. New Brunswick Medical Society. Physicians' Guide to Direct Billing. Published January 2019. Accessed June 18, 2026. <https://www.nbms.nb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Direct-Billing-Guide-E-Final.pdf>
- vi. Medical Society of Prince Edward Island. Physicians' Guide to Uninsured Services. Published May 2023. Accessed June 18, 2026. <https://mspei.org/my-account/physicians-guide-to-uninsured-services/>
- vii. Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association. Physicians' Guide to Non-insured Services. Published 2018. Accessed June 18, 2026. <https://nlma.nl.ca/site/uploads/2022/05/nlma-physicians-guide-to-non-insured-service-june-2018.pdf>