

June 8, 2023

As you are likely aware, a number of family doctors in the Kingston area have retired or left their practice this year. As a result, a number of Ongwanada staff are left without a family doctor and may have questions or concerns about their ongoing medical care. In an effort to provide support for those staff, Ongwanada Pharmacy may be able to provide the following assistance, thanks to Michelle and her team. Assistance Pharmacy may be able to offer includes:

1. Extending any chronic routine medication for up to the equivalent quantity of the last prescription from a prescriber OR 1 year; whichever is less.
 - a. This is only for regularly used medications that you have been taking and are stable, for a clinically relevant amount of time as assessed by the pharmacist. PRN or as-needed medications cannot be extended, with few exceptions.
 - b. In order to extend a prescription a pharmacist MUST assess the appropriateness of the medication and ensure it is still needed. To allow this Ongwanada Pharmacy requires the following:
 - i. A Pharmacist assessment time will need to be booked at least 48 hours prior to requiring the medication. This assessment can take anywhere from 2 to 15 minutes depending on the number of medications and conditions to be assessed.
 - ii. Ongwanada Pharmacy will not be able to extend your medications without this assessment.

2. Pharmacist prescribing for the following Minor Ailments, with some limitations.

Allergic Rhinitis	GERD (heartburn)	Cold Sores
Tick Bites	Conjunctivitis (eye infections)	Dysmenorrhea
Insect bites/ hives	UTI's (uncomplicated)	Hemorrhoids
Dermatitis/ Impetigo (Skin Infections)	Musculoskeletal sprains and strains	

Note - You must either call OR come into the pharmacy to be assessed for any of these conditions. Assessment can last from 2 to 15 minutes and you need a valid Ontario health card

3. Pharmacist providing injections/ inhalations (**Starting 1 July 2023**)
 - a. The list of substances that can be injected is extensive – for more information please call the pharmacy.
 - b. You will require a valid prescription for the medication from a prescriber (or extended by a pharmacist)
 - c. Any injections that are not publicly funded (covered with your Ontario Health Card) can be supplied with an associated fee per injection.
 - i. \$20 fee for first injection of any medication/ assessment
 - ii. \$15 fee for subsequent injections of the same medication

If your needs do not fit any of the three above categories you will need to see a prescriber other than a pharmacist. Some options include:

- d. Tele-health – some are publicly funded such as Tulip Health. You are required to register online and you will be contacted by the prescriber.
- e. Walk in clinics.
- f. As a last resort, Hospital Emergency Departments

If you have any questions regarding the above please reach out to Michelle at ext. 1127 or via e-mail at mneville@ongwanada.com.