

If you are already registered...

If you are registered on the Society's Chronic Medication Programme, there will be NO CHANGE in your chronic medication that is currently authorised.

Monthly chronic medicine requirements must still be ordered at least 10 working days before your current supply is used up. The Society DOES NOT automatically send out chronic medicine, as this may lead to wastage.

The order can be placed by -

Phone: Dispensary general number 053 - 807 3333 (not the 086 000 4747 doctors' line) You may speak to any of the pharmacists on duty.

E-mail: chronicmed@debeersgroup.com

Fax: 053 - 807 3300

Chronic medication users who have been obtaining their medication from the Society's Dispensaries in Kimberley, Kleinsee, Lime Acres or Cullinan, will continue to do so in future.

From 1 September 2002, all NEW chronic medication should be authorised as described below.

If you suffer from a chronic condition ...

From 1 September 2002, the authorisation of chronic medication will be as easy as 1-2-3:



1 Visit your doctor

Once your doctor has diagnosed that you suffer from a chronic condition and wishes to prescribe chronic medication, he/she must phone the Society's **doctor line** on 086 000 4747 to discuss your medication and obtain immediate telephonic authorisation for your medication. No application forms need to be completed.



2 Get a prescription from your doctor

Your doctor must give you a prescription matching your authorised chronic medication. By law, a pharmacist may only dispense scheduled medication on a valid, hand-written prescription. The authorisation process does not replace this.

3 Send your prescription to the Society's Dispensary

Fax or post your prescription to the De Beers Benefit Society Dispensary (fax: 053 - 807 3300) to arrange for the medicine to be dispensed and delivered to you.

Include on the prescription:

- Your membership number
- Contact telephone numbers
- Physical delivery address
 - Please indicate if you prefer that it be delivered -
 - By courier to your home address (there must be someone at home during the day to receive it).
 - the day to receive it).
 - Via DOCEX to your office (if you are based at CHQ).



More about MediKredit

Who are they?

MediKredit is NOT a pharmacy group, but a technology company that contracts with pharmacies and medical schemes for membership and benefit verification and for the electronic submission and processing of accounts. MediKredit currently have more than 90% of all pharmacies in South Africa contracted to submit their accounts electronically and directly to medical schemes. (Regretfully they are not registered in Namibia and Botswana.)

Why do you need to know about them?

Because so many pharmacies are registered with MediKredit, members will have the choice of additional pharmacies from which to obtain their **acute** medicine (unless you stay in Kimberley, Lime Acres, Kleinsee or Cullinan). Read more about obtaining acute medicine on the next page.

HOW TO IDENTIFY A MEDIKREDIT CONTRACTED PHARMACY



Look out for this sign



All pharmacies contracted with MediKredit display this sign.

When can you claim for chronic medication?

If you or any of your dependants suffer from a chronic illness such as asthma, diabetes, epilepsy or hypertension, you may apply to register on the Society's Chronic Medication Programme.

Please refer to the insert to see a full listing of:

- * the conditions currently covered;
- * the conditions currently excluded, and
- * the conditions currently requiring special application.

IMPORTANT NOTE

ONLY DOCTORS are permitted to use the 086 000 4747 doctors' line.

Members enquiring about or ordering their chronic medication should -

- * Phone the Kimberley Dispensary's general number 053 - 807 3333; or
- * E-mail chronicmed@debeersgroup.com

Acute medicine

- MediKredit gives extra choice

Save even more! MediKredit pharmacies will give Society members a 20% discount on their acute medicine purchases.

As mentioned on the front page, you can now obtain acute medicine (used for day-to-day ailments) from any pharmacy contracted to MediKredit. Members staying in Kimberley, Lime Acres, Kleinzee and Cullinan (mining areas), however, will still have to obtain all acute medication from the Society's dispensaries.

At the MediKredit contracted pharmacy, the pharmacist will:

- Electronically verify your membership and benefit status;
- Dispense the acute medicine, and
- Submit the account directly to the Society for payment.

NOTE:

Should your membership and benefit status require you to pay the pharmacy directly, please do so and submit the invoice and till slip to the Society.



CASE STUDY:

While on holiday in Durban, Joe's daughter gets sick. He visits a MediKredit contracted pharmacy for acute medicine. In the past, he would have had to pay out of his own pocket for the acute medicine and claim a refund from the Society.

Not anymore! Because it's a MediKredit contracted pharmacy, Joe's account will be sent electronically to the Society and settled in full. Joe's co-payment will be deducted from his payroll.

REMEMBER:

Visit MediKredit pharmacies **ONLY** for ACUTE medicine. Chronic medication will still only be dispensed by the Society's dispensaries and no other pharmacy is permitted to dispense chronic medication.

Keep us in on your beat with BENEFIT POST!

We'd like to hear from you.

Is there something that you'd like to know more about?

Phone us at:

tel: (053) 807 3401

fax: (053) 807 3499

or e-mail us at:

benefitpost@debeersgroup.com

or write to:

Benefit Post

c/o De Beers Benefit Society

PO Box 1922, Kimberley 8300

BENEFIT BEAT

COMMUNICATING WITH MEMBERS OF THE DE BEERS

BENEFIT SOCIETY

AUGUST 2002

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Authorisation of chronic medication to be brought in-house

'Move' to save costs and hassle

The authorisation process for chronic medication will be administered in-house from **1 September 2002**. Please note that only the **authorisation** process of chronic medication is changing, and not the **supply**. **All chronic medication may still only be obtained from the Society's Dispensaries.**

WHAT IS IN IT FOR YOU?

- **Reduced admin costs:**
This arrangement will reduce the Society's costs - ultimately to the advantage of you as member.
- **Improved efficiency:**
- Your chronic medication may now be authorised while you are in the doctor's consultation room.
- It will be a paperless process - no application forms need to be completed.

Turn the page for more information...



This change will improve the way things are done 'behind the scenes'. For members who are already registered on the Chronic Medication Programme, there will be no change. For first time registration, simply follow the steps on page 2.

Acute Medicine Deal

Society signs deal with MediKredit contracted Pharmacies

You will now be able to obtain your acute medicine from all MediKredit contracted pharmacies without having to pay and claim for a refund (except if you are a member living in Kimberley, Lime Acres, Kleinzee or Cullinan).

This means that you will be able to visit any one of more than 90% of all pharmacies in South Africa. Read more on page 3 and 4.



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