

## **Rationale for the Proposed Medication Management Services Term and Definition:**

The following point details the rationale for the proposed term:

- Several different terms for the definition were considered throughout the development of the draft definition with pros and cons to the use of each term. Various terms are used in the marketplace, often for the same or similar services. The term medication therapy management is codified in Medicare Part D law with specific service elements and is also used in some state and private sector programs and quality metrics. Medication management or variations of medication management such as comprehensive medication management or collaborative medication management are used in team-based care models such as patient-centered medical homes and has also been adopted in some state and private sector programs and quality metrics. Because the draft definition is broad, a broad term was sought to encompass the spectrum of services that apply to the definition.

The following points detail the rationale for the proposed definition:

- As the healthcare system moves to a value-based approach to care, there is a desire to have a broad, concise, easy-to-understand definition that focuses on the key elements of medication management. The definition can be used in advocacy to influence the design of services to meet the intent of the definition.
- The management of medications can include contributions from various members of the healthcare team. Pharmacists have unique expertise in the appropriate use of medications and play a significant role in optimizing medication outcomes. Based on public comments and as the pharmacy profession definition, the definition includes mention of pharmacists to reinforce pharmacists as providers of medication management services.
- The proposed definition has the following elements:
  - Patient-centered approach to care - the scope of services provided need to be individualized for a specific patient and not all services may be necessary for each and every patient.
  - Medication management services are a spectrum of services – While this is a distinct spectrum of services that pharmacists provide, it does not encompass the entirety of all pharmacist-provided patient care services.
  - A focus on medication appropriateness, effectiveness, safety, and adherence and improving patient outcomes - medication management services differ from other medication-related services (e.g., medication administration, medication access services, automated medication support services) by the assessment of an individual patient's medication use for appropriateness, effectiveness, safety, adherence, cost, and accessibility.
  - Collaborative approach to care that involves the patient, caregiver(s), and healthcare providers – patients want their care, including medications, to be coordinated among healthcare team members.
  - Goal of improved health outcomes
- There is a strong desire to have supplemental text for the definition that provides further insight into pharmacists' approach to providing medication management services. This supplemental text can be used in promoting pharmacists' medication management services.

- The 2004 pharmacy profession consensus definition included a list of activities that could be performed as part of an MTM service based on the patient’s individual needs. Many of the activities in the 2004 definition are now included in the Pharmacists’ Patient Care Process (PPCP). It’s recommended in lieu of including a list of the activities in the revised definition, that PPCP be referenced in the supplemental text.
- A framework for medication-related services under a goal of “medication optimization” was used to determine the scope and parameters for medication management services. There are many medication-related services of varying complexities, healthcare provider involvement, and patient involvement. These services range from low complexity technology solutions, like medication refill reminders, to high complexity face to face services with a health care provider. Medication management services are distinguished from other types of medication-related services by the involvement of the patient and/or caregiver(s), delivery by a health care professional, including pharmacists, and the focus on improving medication appropriateness, effectiveness and safety, and accessibility (that includes consideration of cost). The provision of a medication product is not included in the proposed definition of medication management services but is under the umbrella of medication optimization.
- Definitions for medication management and medication therapy management from various sources were catalogued and shared as part of the evaluative process for developing the draft definition for medication management services. Ultimately, the Canadian Pharmacists Association definition “Medication management involves patient-centered care to optimize safe, effective and appropriate drug therapy. Care is provided through collaboration with patients and their health care teams” was identified as a framework starting point.