

9 August 2015

Dear colleagues,

Please note that as of July 1, 2015, financial contributions to Quebec's public drug insurance plan have been modified. These changes will affect the annual premiums paid and the amount contributed by plan members when purchasing drugs.

We are grateful to our retired Faculty of Medicine colleague, Nick Acheson, to have prepared the attached table providing a clear presentation of the changes made to the public drug insurance coverage by the Régie d'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ).

Cordially,

Ginette

Ginette Lamontagne
Interim President
McGill University Retirees Association (MURA)

RAMQ Prescription drug insurance

**Rates in effect before July 1, 2015 and new rates as of that date
Persons age 65 or over – No GIS**

		At the pharmacy				When filing your income tax return			
Monthly deductible		Co-insurance		Maximum monthly contribution		Annual premium			
<i>The deductible is a fixed amount that constitutes the first portion of the costs that insured persons must pay when obtaining insured drugs.</i>		<i>The co-insurance is the percentage (or portion) of the drug costs that insured persons must pay once they have paid the deductible. In other words, when a person's drug costs exceed the deductible, the person pays only a portion of the remainder. This portion is what is referred to as the co-insurance.</i>				<i>The maximum monthly contribution applies only to persons covered by the Public Prescription Drug Insurance Plan. It is the maximum monthly amount that a person covered by the public plan may be required to pay when purchasing insured drugs.</i>		<i>The premium is the amount that insured persons are required to pay to Revenu Québec or to a private insurer for their prescription drug insurance.</i>	
Before July 1, 2015	New rate	Before	New rate	Before	New rate	Before	New rate		
\$16.65	\$18	32.5%	34%	\$83.83 (\$1006/yr)	\$85.75 (\$1029/yr)	From \$0 to \$611	From \$0 to \$640		

1. The premiums are calculated on your Quebec tax return for 2015 and added to your tax bill. The premium for the 2015 tax year will be the average of the two rates shown (\$625.50), because the new rate covers only half of the calendar year.

Adapted from: <http://www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca/en/citizens/prescription-drug-insurance/Pages/summary-costs.aspx>