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“Persons With Persistent and Multiple Barriers” application forms for provincial (welfare) benefits.

Dear Doctor,

In order for your patient to qualify for Person’s with Persistent and Multiple Barriers to Employment (PPMB) benefit, you must complete the PPMB Medical Report. A single person with no dependents may receive up to \$607.92 per month on PPMB. This is approximately \$100 a month more than basic income assistance. PPMB recipients are also eligible for Enhanced Medical benefits and may earn up to \$300 per month without it decreasing their benefits. So there are real advantages for your patient if they can qualify for PPMB.

To qualify for PPMB, you must show that your patient’s medical condition:

- stops them from looking for, accepting or continuing employment
- has lasted for at least 1 year, or has occurred frequently in the last year and is likely to continue or reoccur for at least 2 more years.

Addictions of any kind do not count as an eligible medical condition under the PPMB rules.

We respectfully ask that you complete the Medical Report. To assist you and your patient, we have written a brief guide to some questions in the Report that we believe require particular attention.

1.c.- You are asked if the applicant’s medical condition is “mild,” “moderate” or “severe.” It will be most helpful to the applicant if the medical condition is stated to be “moderate” or “severe.”

1.d.- You are asked if the applicant’s medical condition has existed for at least 1 year. For the applicant to qualify for PPMB, the response must be yes.

2.a.- You are asked if the applicant’s medical condition is expected to continue for more than 2 years. For the applicant to qualify for PPMB, the response should be yes.

2.d.- You are asked to describe any steps that can be taken to overcome or reduce restrictions to employment. The Medical Report includes the example of a change from physical labour to a desk job.

Please evaluate your patient’s ability to work from a “real world” perspective. For example: if your patient has worked all their life as a labourer, they are probably not going to be able to do office work or be hired to do this kind of work. They are therefore unemployable because no employer would hire them in the “real world.”

2.e.- You are asked to describe any workplace supports such as flexible hours that may assist in employment. However if the applicant is unemployable in the “real world,” workplace supports will be irrelevant.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this Medical Report.