

## ***MEDICAL BENEFITS BOARD OF CONTROL*** **ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

### **MBS distributes new Smart Card**

Persons who participated in the testing phase of the Medical Benefits Scheme (MBS) member's registration program can now collect their new cards. MBS began distributing the smart cards last week having as promised made telephone calls to individuals to announce that cards were ready for pick-up.



Each individual must collect his/her own card, except in the case of a minor, where the person collecting must produce documentation indicating that they are authorised to act accordingly. Persons collecting their smart card are required to produce their 'old' MBS card, the slip issued during the re-registration process and a government issued photo id. The MBS smart card can be collected at the Customer Service Department, ground floor of the Administrative Building on Nevis Street, between the hours of 8:00 am and 3:30 pm.

Persons in receipt of their new MBS smart card are encouraged to immediately share the new MBS number with their employer, as doing so will ensure that contributions are credited to the individual's account. Further, the card should be kept safe and the embedded microchip protected at all times. The card should not be placed or stored close to a magnet as it may corrupt the information.

For now, the new MBS smart card will serve as an identification card to access services at the Mount St. John's Medical Centre, benefits at MBS such as medication from the network of pharmacies, and to make re-imbursalment claims for monies spent conducting diagnostic test at private laboratories. When the member re-registration exercise is completed other aspects of the card's utility will be activated including the storage of the holder's medical history and prescriptions as well as records of visits and services rendered at private laboratories.

The testing phase for the re-registration process was successful and MBS wishes to thank participants for their favourable reviews as well as the recommendations geared at enhancing the serviceability of the smart card.

The re-registration exercise for MBS members will officially roll out on Monday, 7th October, 2013 via an appointment system.