

## Local Man First in Saskatchewan to Receive Life Prolonging Drug



Harold Tendler. Photos by Sebastien Bell

by Sebastien Bell

Harold Tendler has Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF). The retired farmer is one of 30,000 Canadians living with IPF, and the third member of his family to be diagnosed with a life-threatening lung condition. He is, however, in many ways lucky.

First you should understand a few things about IPF. Importantly, no one quite understands it. Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis is more of a description of a condition than it is a name. Idiopathic means that no one knows where the disease comes from. The cause, or causes, of the disease are still a

mystery to medicine.

Although the causes of IPF are mysterious, the results are very well known. IPF describes a scarring of the lungs. Pulmonary refers to your lungs, and fibrosis occurs when there is an excess of fibrous connective tissue, in this case scar tissue.

The scar tissue builds up in the lungs, which makes breathing increasingly difficult. Eventually, the lungs become overburdened by the scar tissue, and sufferers are suffocated. People who are diagnosed with IPF usually die within two to five years of being diagnosed. IPF has a higher mortality than pancreatic, lung, and

liver cancers, according to the Canadian Cancer Society.

But things are looking up, thanks to Harold Tendler. Although most people die within five years of diagnosis, Tendler has been living with the disease for nine years now, and without major impediment.

Tendler admits that he is slowing down, but the 80-year-old, retired farmer says that most of these past nine years have been pretty good. He's been active and relatively healthy all those years, and says that he hasn't been slowed down much by IPF.

Part of the reason for that is luck, but part of his longevity must be put down to his

lifestyle. When faced with the condition, Tendler was told by one of his doctors, "don't get fat, don't be a couch potato, and cross your fingers."

Unfortunately that advice was about all doctors could offer Tendler for a long time. A disease without a clear cause is a difficult disease to treat, indeed. But things are looking up for him.

About a year ago, Tendler started taking a pill called Es-

to the drug's manufacturers it will slow down the condition's progression.

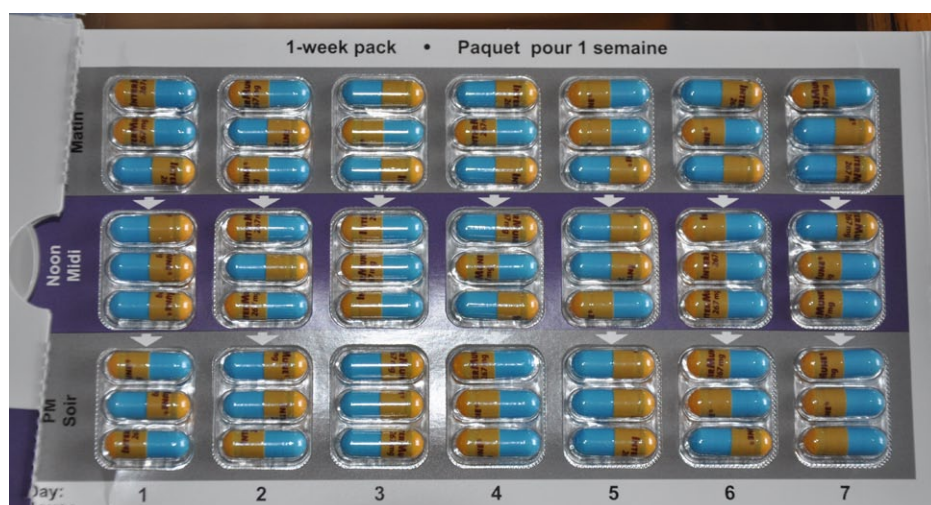
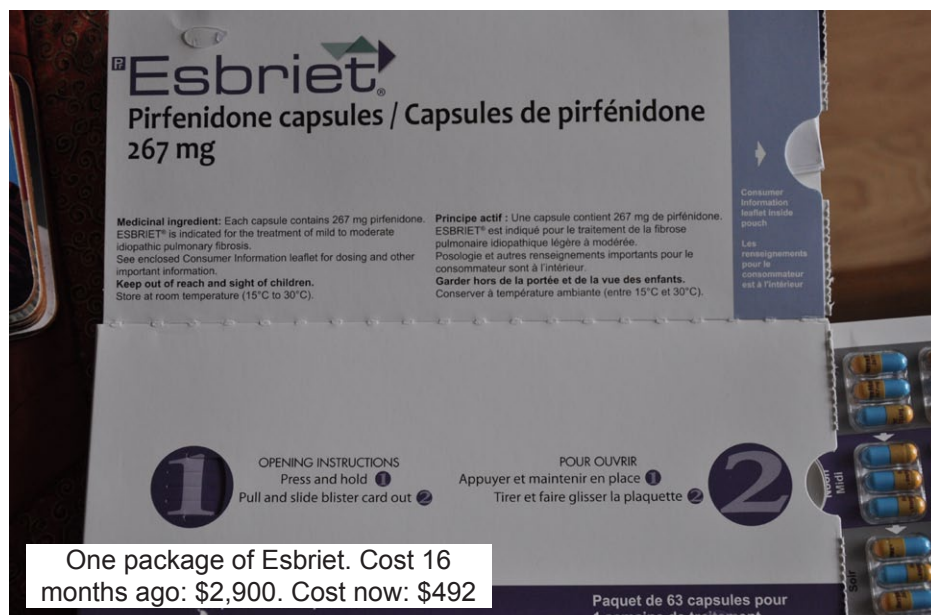
When he first started taking Esbriet, a four week course of the drug cost around \$2,900. Tendler is laconic, and does not complain freely, but the expense of these drugs was clearly a burden, and when he explains that his latest course of drugs only cost him \$492, he lights up.

Up until November 1, Esbriet was not

Despite all of these treatments, however, anything short of a lung transplant – which Tendler is too old for – will only prolong his life, not cure him IPF.

"It's not good, that's for sure," says Tendler of the condition, "but it's just something you have to live with." He may be realistic about his condition, but he is far from despondent.

"He's coping very well," says Lorrie Tendler, Harold's



briet, the first and only treatment for IPF available in Canada. No one is claiming that the drug is a cure for IPF, but according

covered under the Saskatchewan Drug Plan. In fact, up until recently it wasn't covered anywhere in Canada. Thanks to the efforts of the Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation (CPFF), provincial funding is helping IPF sufferers, like Tendler, to pay for the drug.

wife. "Our children are quite concerned for him, but everyone is taking it in stride." For now, Tendler lives on. With drugs and exercise, he has to squeeze out everything life has left to offer him. With any luck, he will have more life left, and if the drugs work, the quality of that life will be better.

**CLOSING OUT SALE**  
**Morin Jewellers**  
**Assiniboia, SK**  
**December 1<sup>st</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**Pull Your Own Discount**  
**50%-70% Discount**

**LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER**  
**R.M. of Sutton No. 103**

SW 36 10 03 3 NW 25 10 03 3  
 SE 36 10 03 3 SE 35 10 03 3

Bids accepted until Dec. 12, 2014,  
 by fax (306) 478-2322 or mail to:  
**G&J Chabot Farms Ltd.**  
**Box 325, Mankota, SK. S0H 2W0**

Highest or any bid not  
 necessarily accepted.

Available at extra cost: 2, 2106  
 Westeel Bins, 7800 bu. each, with air.

**LAND FOR CASH RENT BY TENDER**  
**LOCATED IN THE RM OF LAKE JOHNSTON #102**

**Parcel 1 - approximately 1250 cultivated acres**

SE-19-10-28-W2	NE-18-10-28-W2
NW-16-10-28-W2	SE-18-10-28-W2
SW-21-10-28-W2	SE-13-10-29-W2
NW-18-10-28-W2	SW-13-10-29-W2
SW-18-10-28-W2	Grain Storage available.

**Parcel 2 - approximately 950 cultivated acres**

NW-21-11-29-W2	SE-16-11-29-W2
SW-21-11-29-W2	NW-16-11-29-W2
SE-21-11-29-W2	SW-16-11-29-W2
NE-16-11-29-W2	Grain Storage available.

Tenders to specify total cash rent for parcel 1 or for parcel 2 or for both parcels. 3 or 5 year contracts considered.

All acreages are approximate, bidder must rely on their own research and inspection.

Tenders accepted until December 15, 2014.  
 Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Submit tenders to [jtsutor@sasktel.net](mailto:jtsutor@sasktel.net) or Jim Sutor Box 506, Mossbank, SK. S0H 3G0.

For further information contact Jim Sutor at 306-354-7801 or at [jtsutor@sasktel.net](mailto:jtsutor@sasktel.net)

**NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MANKOTA NO. 45**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the offices of:

**COUNCILOR FOR DIVISION NO. 7**

will be received by the undersigned at the municipal office during normal office hours until Wednesday, December 17, 2014, at 4:00 p.m. local time.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the municipal office.

Dated this 1st day of December, 2014.

**Michael E. Sherven**  
 Returning Officer