

the **ADBL** report

Issue #124, February 2022

An Official Accompaniment to the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL) produced by Alberta Blue Cross The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics (ECDET)

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Brief Summary of Drug Review Activities

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics met on November 18 & 19, 2021. The Committee reviewed Manufacturer submissions for twenty-five (25) Drug Products for potential listing, or change in listing, on the ADBL. The Committee also considered information for a number of supplementary assessments of the coverage status of sixteen (16) Drug Products.

In addition to Drug Products reviewed by the Expert Committee, nineteen (19) Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the ADBL effective December 1, 2021, and twenty-two (22) Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the ADBL effective February 1, 2022.

The following are **highlights** of recent changes to the ADBL and other topics of general interest. A complete list of changes, as well as the full ADBL may be accessed at

<https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.php>

Highlights of Products Originally Reviewed via the Common Drug Review (CDR)

The following Drug Products were reviewed by CDR and the Expert Committee and added to the ADBL effective December 1, 2021:

- **MAYZENT* 0.25 mg & 2 mg tablets** (siponimod) (NOV) via Special Authorization (SA)

The following Drug Products were reviewed by CDR and the Expert Committee and added to the ADBL effective February 1, 2022:

- **AJOVY* 225 mg/1.5 ml auto-injector & injection syringes** (fremanezumab) (TEV) via SA
- **BAQSIMI 3 mg/dose (single-use) nasal powder** (glucagon) (LIL) via Restricted Benefit
- **BEOVU 6 mg/0.05 mL injection syringe** (brolucizumab) (NOV) via Restricted Benefit
- **CRYSVITA* 10 mg/mL, 20 mg/mL & 30 mg/mL injections** (burosumab) (KKL) via SA
- **DUOBRII* 0.01%/0.045% topical lotion** (halobetasol propionate/ tazarotene) (VCL) via SA
- **ILUMYA* 100 mg/mL injection syringe** (tildrakizumab) (SPF) via SA

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Please refer to the current ADBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).

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Highlights of Interchangeable (IC) Drug Products Added

Addition of the following Entry IC Drug Product to the *ADBL* has resulted in the creation of a New IC Grouping, effective December 1, 2021:

- **OCTREOTIDE* 10 mg/vial, 20 mg/vial & 30 mg/vial injections** (octreotide acetate) (TEV) via SA

Addition of the following Entry IC Drug Products to the *ADBL* has resulted in the creation of New IC Groupings, effective February 1, 2022:

- **BIPAZEN 4 mcg/mL injection** (desmopressin acetate) (KVR)
- **DIMETHYL FUMARATE* (various brands: AHI, APX, JPC, MAR, PMS & SDZ) 120 mg delayed-release capsules** (dimethyl fumarate) via SA

Highlights of Biosimilar Drug Products Added

The following Biosimilar Drug Products were added to the *ADBL* effective December 1, 2021:

- **IDACIO* 40 mg/0.8 mL injection syringe** (adalimumab) (FKC) via SA for the indications of Ankylosing Spondylitis, Hidradenitis Suppurativa, Crohn's Disease, Plaque Psoriasis (PsO), polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, Psoriatic Arthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), and Ulcerative Colitis
- **RIABNI* 10 mg/mL injection** (rituximab) (AMG) via SA for the indications of Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis or Microscopic Polyangiitis and RA

Highlights of Diabetes Supplies Added

The following devices were added to the *ADBL* via Restricted Benefit effective February 1, 2022:

- **DEXCOM G6 SENSOR & DEXCOM G6 TRANSMITTER** for continuous glucose monitoring (COM)
- **GUARDIAN LINK TRANSMITTER (670G & 770G PUMPS), GUARDIAN SENSOR & GUARDIAN CONNECT TRANSMITTER** for continuous glucose monitoring (MET)

Highlights of Drug Products Added

The following Natural Health Products were reviewed by the Expert Committee and added to the *ADBL* effective February 1, 2022:

- **JAMP-HYDROCORTISONE ACETATE 1% topical cream** (hydrocortisone) (JPC)
- **JAMPOCAINE 5% topical ointment** (lidocaine) (JPC)

Highlights of Changes to Currently Listed Products

The benefit listing status of the following Drug Products have been changed from Special Authorization to Regular Benefit effective December 1, 2021:

- **SUBLOCADE 100 mg/0.5 mL & 300 mg/1.5 mL extended-release injection syringes** (buprenorphine) (IUK)

The Special Authorization criteria for coverage for the following Drug Products have been revised effective February 1, 2022:

- **STELARA* 45 mg/0.5 mL vial or syringe injection & 90 mg/1 mL injection syringe** (ustekinumab) (JAI) for the indication of PsO

Delisted Products

The following Drug Products were delisted from the *ADBL* effective January 10, 2022 due to the Alberta Biosimilar Initiative:

- **LOVENOX 30 mg/0.3 mL, 40 mg/0.4 mL, 60 mg/0.6 mL, 80 mg/0.8 mL, 100 mg/mL & 120 mg/0.8 mL injection syringes & 100 mg/mL vial & LOVENOX HP 150 mg/mL injection syringe** (enoxaparin sodium) (SAV)

The following Drug Products were delisted from the *ADBL* effective February 1, 2022 due to the Alberta Biosimilar Initiative:

- **HUMALOG 100 units/mL vial, cartridge & KwikPen injections** (insulin lispro) (LIL)

A complete list of changes, as well as the full *ADBL* may be accessed at <https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html>.

*Please refer to the current *ADBL* for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).*

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