

Effective **July 1, 2025**, the Alberta Biosimilars Initiative will be updated with the following changes that will affect adult members on Alberta government-sponsored drug plans.

Addition of tocilizumab biosimilar – all adult patients on Actemra must switch by January 1, 2026

1. Update to Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)

On July 1, 2025, a new tocilizumab biosimilar drug, Tyenne, was listed on the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL) for the treatment of Giant Cell Arteritis, Polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis or Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis and will be subject to the Alberta Biosimilar Initiative.

2. Coverage

Effective July 1, 2025, all new tocilizumab starts for Giant Cell Arteritis, Polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis, Rheumatoid Arthritis or Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis are covered with a biosimilar version of tocilizumab. Adult patients currently taking Actemra will be required to switch to a biosimilar version by January 1, 2026 to maintain coverage for this molecule through their Alberta government-sponsored drug plan.