

BIOSIMILARS INITIATIVE UPDATE – Delisting of Humalog and reminders of NovoRapid and Humira and Lovenox

Effective **February 1, 2022**, Humalog will be delisted from the government-sponsored drug plans (refer to **Benefact 971**). Access to Humalog will continue for those patients whose insulin pump has not been approved for use with the biosimilar.

As a reminder, on January 10, 2022, Lovenox (refer to **Benefact 966**) will no longer be eligible for coverage for new enoxaparin starts. All new patient starts for enoxaparin will be covered for the biosimilar.

Additionally, two originator products Novorapid (refer to **Benefact 983**) and Humira (refer to **Benefact 956**) will also be delisted in the near future. Access to Novorapid will continue for those patients whose insulin pump has not been approved for use with the biosimilar. Patients will be required to switch to a biosimilar to maintain coverage for these molecules through government-sponsored drug plans.

Drug name	Originator brand name	Biosimilar brand name	Health conditions	Biosimilar switch effective date
Enoxaparin Sodium	Lovenox	Inclunox Noromby Redesca	Thromboembolic disorders	January 10, 2022
Insulin Lispro	Humalog	Admelog	Diabetes	February 1, 2022
Insulin Aspart	NovoRapid	Trurapi	Diabetes	April 1, 2022
Adalimumab	Humira	Amgevita Hadlima Hulio Hyrimoz Idacio	Ankylosing spondylitis, Crohn's disease, Hidradenitis suppurativa, Plaque psoriasis, Psoriatic arthritis, Rheumatoid arthritis, Ulcerative colitis	May 1, 2022

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Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL) interim update now available online

Please be advised that the **February 1, 2022** updates to the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)* have been posted online at ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.php.

Please refer to the February 1, 2022 updates for complete listings of products available by special authorization, drugs with changes to criteria for coverage, optional special authorization, restricted benefits, added products, new established interchangeable groupings, products with a price change, discontinued products and products removed from the ADBL.

Please note that the online Interactive Drug Benefit List (iDBL) at ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/idbl_main1.php is a near real-time application and, as such, contains the most up-to-date information.

Temporary benefit added to the ADBL

Due to the unavailability of pms-Sulfasalazine 500 mg Tablet (DIN 00598461) manufactured by Pharmascience Inc., Salazopyrin 500 mg Tablet (DIN 02064480) will be considered a temporary benefit for the ADBL. This grouping was added to the Critical Supply Product List **December 27, 2021**.

As of **January 10, 2022**, all claims for Salazopyrin 500 mg Tablet (DIN 02064480) will be adjudicated to the price published in the most recent *Alberta Blue Cross Drug Price List (ABCDPL)* until further notice. The ABCDPL is available online at ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php.

If this situation continues to be a long-term matter, then these products are subject to the usual review process by the Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics and must be approved by the Minister of Health for addition to the ADBL to remain as a benefit.

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area)

403-294-4041 (Calgary and area)

1-800-361-9632 (toll free)

FAX 780-498-8406 (Edmonton and area)

FAX 1-877-305-9911 (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefits and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims.

Visit ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php

