

Alberta Health Services introduces the Alberta Lung Cancer Screening Pilot as part of AlbertaQuits (Group number 23699, Section D)

Effective October 1, 2022, Alberta Blue Cross will begin administering the Alberta Lung Cancer Screening Pilot (ALCSP), a new program available through the Alberta Health Services (AHS) AlbertaQuits program. This pilot program is available to high-risk Albertans between the ages of 55 and 75 who have been screened for lung cancer through a Primary Care Network (PCN). Individuals enrolled under the ALCSP will have access to the same nicotine replacement therapy benefits covered under the other AlbertaQuits programs, up to a maximum of \$500 for a 14-week period.

Primary care providers in three participating PCNs will refer eligible patients to the program for lung cancer screening. Based on the PCN's clinical review, an AHS facilitator will submit an enrolment form to Alberta Blue Cross on the individual's behalf. Alberta Blue Cross will then send an approval letter and ID card to the individual.

For information regarding the ALCSP, individuals can contact the program's Tobacco Cessation Case Manager at 780-735-3643. More information can also be found at screeningforlife.ca/lung.

Background

AlbertaQuits is an Internet-based cessation service for Albertans who use tobacco and wish to access cessation resources and online support to reduce and stop smoking tobacco. If individuals meet AHS's eligibility criteria, the program provides participants with Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) drug benefits free of charge. More

information about AlbertaQuits is available at albertaquits.ca or by calling 1-866-710-QUIT (7848).

Program participation and benefit eligibility

Participants eligible for programs under AlbertaQuits coverage will receive an enrolment confirmation letter from Alberta Blue Cross, which includes a list of eligible NRT products and an Alberta Blue Cross ID card. Participants must present the letter at their pharmacy to confirm their approval of benefits under the AlbertaQuits program.

Pharmacists do not need to keep this letter on file.

Participants are required to present their prescription, if applicable, and their AlbertaQuits confirmation letter from Alberta Blue Cross at the pharmacy. Participants can receive 100 per cent coverage for eligible NRT, Champix and Zyban/Bupropion products up to a maximum of \$500 within the benefit period of their AlbertaQuits program, as stated within their letter. Additional information can be found in Pharmacy Benefacts 695 and 615. The program provides for submission of direct-bill claims only. Participants are not eligible to claim for reimbursement.

Smoking cessation products such as Champix and Zyban require a prescription; however, Over The Counter (OTC) NRT products, such as Nicorette, may be dispensed without a prescription.

Supplementary documentation to support claims submission must be kept in the patient's file or record of care.

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 Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims.

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

