

Alberta Wildfire Emergency

On May 3, 2023, Pharmacy Benefact 1105 was issued to remind pharmacy providers on the process of submitting fees for assessments for ensuring continuity of care for the Declaration of a State of Local Emergency for Parkland and Yellowhead Counties.

On May 6, 2023, the Government of Alberta declared a provincial state of emergency to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of Albertans. This provincial state of emergency allows all Albertans affected by wildfires access to emergency pharmacy services.

Due to the mandatory evacuations caused by the wildfires throughout the province, many Alberta residents may be seeking temporary pharmacy services from pharmacies across Alberta, including assistance with prescription drug coverage.

There may be instances where an evacuee may not have their insurance documents for drug coverage with them or are struggling to cover co-payments. If this occurs, the wildfire evacuee may be eligible for emergency prescription drug coverage through the 1976 Drug Authorization voucher.

If support with the costs of prescription drugs is required, please direct the wildfire evacuee to call the Income Support Contact Centre at 1-866-644-5135 (available 24/7) or have them visit any Alberta Supports Centre.

Alberta Support Centres are open Monday to Friday from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Alberta Support Centres located in impacted communities are open evenings and weekends—a list of locations are available here:

<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-supports.aspx>

The wildfire evacuee will need to contact the Income Support Contact Centre or visit an Alberta Support Centre themselves to receive access to emergency prescription drug coverage. Once processed, the voucher will be faxed directly to the dispensing pharmacy as chosen by the evacuee. The 1976 voucher will cover the dispensing costs associated to the drug products as found within the **Alberta Drug Benefit List**.

For information on how to submit a claim using a 1976 drug authorization, refer to Benefact number 1045 available at ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/pharmacy-benefacts/pharmacy-benefact-1045.pdf.

For Alberta residents affected by this emergency, assessment for ensuring continuity of care in the event of a declaration of a state of emergency or declaration of a state of local emergency will remain eligible until such time as the declaration has been terminated or ceases to be in effect. For claim submission information, refer to Benefact number 1105 available at ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/pharmacy-benefacts/pharmacy-benefact-1105.pdf.

Wildfire emergency updates can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/emergency.aspx>

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

