

## Eligible Insulin Pumps and Pump Supplies are available as limited-use benefits for Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT) health benefit programs

Effective immediately, eligible Insulin Pumps are listed as limited use benefits for GNWT Seniors (Group 60), Specified Disease Conditions (Group 21992) and Métis Health Benefit (Group 19866) programs for patients who meet the coverage criteria.

Insulin Pumps and Pump Supplies will be limited-use benefits and require a prior approval to be submitted to Alberta Blue Cross® for assessment based on the coverage criteria. A prior approval for Insulin Pumps and Pump Supplies can be submitted by the **prescribing physician** using the EXCEPTION APPROVAL REQUEST FOR INSULIN PUMPS & SUPPLIES form and faxing it to Alberta Blue Cross using the number at the bottom of the form:

<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/content/ehb-exception-approval-request-insulin-pumps-and-supplies>

### Insulin Pump coverage criteria

#### For patients starting a new insulin pump:

For the treatment of clients who meet the following criteria:

- have Type 1 diabetes; AND
- are under the care of an endocrinologist or a specialist prescriber with experience in the use of insulin pumps; AND
- patient cannot consistently achieve the recommended HbA1C target value despite concerted efforts by the individual and/or family to achieve glucose control through
  - strong consistency with carbohydrate counting and matching of insulin with carbohydrate intake,
  - frequent blood glucose monitoring,
  - multiple daily insulin injections administered with meals and snacks;

AND at least one of the following:

- frequent unpredictable hypoglycemic episodes; OR
- frequent unpredictable diabetic ketoacidosis episodes; OR
- unpredictable swings in blood glucose.

The recommended HbA1C target is 7.5% or less for children and individuals under 18 years and 7% or less for individuals 18 years of age or older.

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# PHARMACY BENEFACT

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## **For patients already using an insulin pump:**

For the treatment of clients who meet the following criteria:

- have Type 1 diabetes; AND
- are under the care of an endocrinologist or a specialist prescriber with experience in the use of insulin pumps.

Coverage is limited to one insulin pump every five years.

## **Insulin Pump supply coverage criteria:**

- Insulin pump supplies are approved following the approval of an insulin pump; or
- Insulin pump supplies are approved for patients with Type 1 diabetes if an insulin pump was partially or totally covered by another insurance.

## **Claim submission and adjudication**

Insulin Pumps and Pump Supplies must be billed using product- and brand-specific pseudo-Product Identification Numbers (PINs). PINs and Drug Identification Numbers (DINs) for drug benefits for the Government of Northwest Territories plans can be searched for at NIHB (<https://nihb-ssna.express-scripts.ca/en/>) by clicking **Pharmacy > Drug Benefit List**.

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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](http://ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

