

Reminder: Paxlovid—no cost federal supply is still available to order until May 24, 2024

Alberta Health has received reports of pharmacies dispensing the commercial supply of Paxlovid and charging Albertan's the full cost of the medication. Please be aware, as outlined in Pharmacy Benefact 1162 issued March 19, 2024, that federally procured supply of Paxlovid (renal dosing) is still available until **May 24, 2024** and is available to Albertans at no cost.

While Federal supply remains available, we would like to remind pharmacies to check both their primary and secondary wholesalers when placing orders for the federal supply in the event your primary wholesaler does not have stock.

Adjusting federally procured Paxlovid packages

In an effort to extend the availability of the federal supply, pharmacists are encouraged to dispense Paxlovid with the earliest expiry dates first which may require adjusting tablets, instructions and counselling as needed.

To obtain the full dose of Paxlovid using the renal impairment dose packaging (DIN: 02527804)

Dispense 2 renal impairment dose packages. From 1 package, remove 1 ritonavir 100 mg (white tablet) from both the morning and evening dose of each daily card and discard the extra ritonavir tablets.

Expiry dates

For the limited supply of the federally procured Paxlovid (renal dosing) that expires on **May 31, 2024**, pharmacists will be able to order this supply until **May 24, 2024** and may continue to dispense this stock until **May 26, 2024**.

Pharmacists are reminded to ensure the expiry dates of the Paxlovid packs are checked before dispensing to patients to ensure it does not expire prior to the end of the treatment course.

Reminders

The details regarding dispensing of the federal supply of Paxlovid can be found in the Alberta Pharmacy Reference Guide for dispensing Paxlovid on the Alberta Blue Cross website, per Benefact 1015: ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/paxlovid-reference-guide.pdf.

Disposal of expired federal supply should follow normal disposal of medication in their pharmacies. Do not return expired products to the distributor or manufacturer.

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

