

Eligibility guidelines for topical diclofenac compounds

This Pharmacy Benefact outlines eligibility guidelines for billing a topical diclofenac compound when diclofenac powder is the main active ingredient.

Topical diclofenac compounds are deemed eligible benefits on all Alberta Blue Cross Group, Individual Product and Government Plans under the guidelines listed below. Following these guidelines will enhance the efficiency of claim adjudication and minimize the risk of ineligible compound claim reversal post-adjudication.

Claims may be submitted in real time under these eligibility guidelines as long as the main active ingredient is diclofenac powder mixed either on its own or with another eligible active ingredient in an eligible base.

Below is a list of the most common eligible bases and active ingredients for topical diclofenac compounds. Please note that if a base or ingredient is not listed, contact Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services to determine whether the base or ingredient is eligible for coverage prior to claim submission.

Eligible bases for topical diclofenac compounds listed but not limited to	Eligible* active ingredients for topical diclofenac compounds listed but not limited to (*when added to compounds with diclofenac powder as the main active ingredient)
PLO GEL/CREAM	CAMPHOR CRYSTALS
TRANSDERMAL PAIN BASE/TRANSDERMAL CREAM	CAPSAICIN POWDER
MEDIFLO	MENTHOL CRYSTALS
DIFFUSIMAX	PHENOL
ULTRAMAX	PIROXICAM POWDER
VERSAPRO	IBUPROFEN POWDER
GLAXAL BASE	CYCLOBENZAPRINE POWDER
LIPODERM	LIDOCAINE POWDER
VANPEN BASE	GABAPENTIN POWDER
Compound example: Diclofenac Powder 5%, Menthol Crystals 3% in PLO Gel	

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The following compound PINs must be used when billing compounds containing diclofenac powder as the main active ingredient:

00999102	Compound-Diclofenac (Topical)	<i>To be used when the compound has been prepared and dispensed by a licensed community pharmacy.</i>
00999202	Compound-Diclofenac (Topical)	<i>To be used when the compound has been prepared by a licensed compounding and repackaging pharmacy and procured and dispensed by a licensed community pharmacy.</i>

Topical diclofenac compounds are considered ineligible as a benefit if:

1. A plan member has exclusions for anti-inflammatory, analgesic or pain management medications. When members have these exclusions, claims submitted for diclofenac compounds will reject at time of adjudication (response code CD - Patient not entitled to drug claimed) when billed with the correct compound PIN.
2. The compound therapeutically duplicates a manufactured product.
3. An ingredient is used that is not an eligible benefit for the member.

General Compound Information

When submitting a claim for compounded prescriptions to Alberta Blue Cross, all ingredients within the compound must be an eligible benefit under the member's coverage.

As per section 3.11 and Appendix B of the Alberta Blue Cross Pharmaceutical Services Provider Agreement, Alberta Blue Cross will have the right to conduct compliance verification reviews for claims, including claims for compounded prescriptions provided to members.

Alberta Blue Cross reserves the right to require submission of the details of the compounded prescriptions prior to or after payment of the claim.

For direct bill claims, charges shall not exceed the charges outlined in Appendix A of the Alberta Blue Cross Pharmaceutical Services Provider Agreement.

If you are dispensing a compound containing ingredients which do not appear on the list in this Benefit, our Pharmacy Services representatives are available to verify compound eligibility and provide you with the correct PIN to submit at time of claim. If you have any questions, please contact Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services at the contact information listed below.

When you have questions:

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)



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