Number 588 • March 2016

Temporary benefit added to the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)

Due to the unavailability of Airomir CFC-Free 100 mcg/dose Metered Dose Aerosol (DIN 02232570) manufactured by Valeant Canada Limitee/Limited, Apo-Salvent CFC Free 100 mcg/dose Metered Dose Aerosol (DIN 02245669) manufactured by Apotex Inc., Salbutamol HFA 100 mcg/dose Metered Dose Aerosol (DIN 02419858) manufactured by Sanis Health Inc. and Ventolin HFA 100 mcg/dose Metered Dose Aerosol (DIN 02241497) manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline, Ventolin Diskus 200 mcg/dose Powder for Inhalation (DIN 02243115) will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

Please be advised that Ventolin Diskus **contains 200 mcg of Salbutamol Sulfate per dose.** The recommended dose for Ventolin Diskus is one inhalation (200 mcg) as required and the total daily dose should not exceed four inhalations (800 mcg). Ventolin Diskus 200 mcg/dose Powder for Inhalation (DIN 02243115) is a higher strength than the Salbutamol 100 mcg/dose Metered Dose Inhalers; therefore, the dosing must be taken into consideration.

Ventolin Diskus 200 mcg/dose Powder for Inhalation

	Recommended dose and dosage adjustment acute symptoms* (relief of bronchospasm)	Intermittent and long-term treatment (prevention of bronchospasm)**	Prevention of exercise- induced bronchospasm	Maximum daily dose (total daily dose should not exceed)
Adults and children (four years and older)	One Inhalation (200 mcg) as required.	One Inhalation (200 mcg) every four to six hours to a maximum of three to four times daily.	One Inhalation (200 mcg) 15 minutes before exercise.	Four Inhalations (800 mcg).

^{*}If a more severe attack has not been relieved by the usual dose, further inhalations may be required. In these cases, patients should immediately consult their doctors or the nearest hospital.

^{**}If, despite appropriate anti-inflammatory therapy (e.g. corticosteroids), regular daily use of the Ventolin Diskus inhalation powder remains necessary for the control of bronchospasm due to bronchial asthma.

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As of March 1, 2016, all claims for Ventolin Diskus 200 mcg/dose Powder for Inhalation (DIN 02243115) will be adjudicated to the price published in the most recent *Alberta Blue Cross Drug Price List (ABCDPL)* until further notice. The *ABCDPL* is available online at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.html.

Novo-Salbutamol HFA 100 mcg/dose Metered Dose Aerosol (DIN 02326450) manufactured by Teva Canada Limited was previously communicated in Benefact #583 and remains a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*. Please be advised that Novo-Salbutamol HFA 100 mcg/dose Metered Dose Aerosol (DIN 02326450) **is not deemed interchangeable**.

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)

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 https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php**



