

Pharmacy Benefact

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

Number 874 • July 2020

Extension of special authorizations for government-sponsored plans

The majority of special authorization approvals for Alberta government-sponsored plans that term between July 1, 2020, and September 30, 2020, will be automatically extended by 12 months. Extensions will not apply to recently initiated medications and select high-cost drugs. If one of these scenarios applies, a new medication is initiated or changes are made to the medication used, a new request is required. In these cases, you may receive a response code of

CP - Eligible for special authorization, or

EU - Quantity &/or days' supply not permitted.

Prescribers impacted by this change will receive notification of their special authorization extensions and the new expiry date via fax. These extensions will allow prescribers to continue to prioritize the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and will ensure patients continue to have authorization for their medications while taking personal steps to help prevent the spread.

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

Due to the unavailability of Ketorolac Tromethamine 30 mg/ml Injection (DIN 02239944), manufactured by Sandoz Canada Inc., Ketorolac Tromethamine 30 mg/ml Injection (DIN 02244947), manufactured by Fresenius Kabi Canada will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

As of **July 4, 2020**, all claims for Ketorolac Tromethamine 30 mg/ml Injection (DIN 02244947) 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.php>.

If this situation continues to be a long-term matter, then this product is subject to the usual review process by the Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics and must be approved by the Minister of Health for addition to the *ADBL* to remain as a benefit.

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 [ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php](https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

