

Importation of American-labelled Sublocade 100 mg and 300 mg injection due to the ongoing shortage of Sublocade in Canada

Due to the shortage of **Sublocade 100 mg and 300 mg injections** in Canada, Health Canada has allowed the importation of Indivior Canada's American-labelled Sublocade 100 mg and 300 mg injections

The following Temporary Product Identification numbers have been assigned to the US-labelled Sublocade products:

PIN	Product Description
09858127	Sublocade 100 mg / Syringe Injection
09858128	Sublocade 300 mg / Syringe Injection

The US-labelled Sublocade products are identical in pharmacological properties to the Canadian-labelled Sublocade products that have been authorized and marketed in Canada. **Health care professionals should read and carefully follow the instruction in the Canadian Product Monograph (CPM) for product administration, dosage information, contraindications and warnings and precautions located here: https://pdf.hres.ca/dpd_pm/00054686.PDF.**

Pharmacists and other health care professionals are reminded of the following:

- Sublocade should be stored at 2° to 8°C. These products should be removed from the refrigerator 15 minutes prior to administration. Once outside, these products may be stored in their original packaging at room temperature, 15° to 30°C, for up to seven days prior to administration. Please discard these products if left at room temperature for longer than seven days.
- The expiry date is indicated on the carton and on the syringe label of the US-labelled Sublocade products.
- Sublocade is available only through a controlled distribution process. Sublocade must never be handled by, or be in the possession of, the patient prior to administration by a qualified health care provider.
- Patients should be under the care of a health care provider with experience in the diagnosis and management of opioid use disorder and who has been certified to administer subcutaneous buprenorphine extended release injection.
- Buprenorphine extended release injection must be administered subcutaneously in the abdominal region by a health care provider.

Note: reimbursement of these products remains subject to the Special Authorization criteria outlined in the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)* for Sublocade. All Special Authorization approvals that are in place for Sublocade products listed on the *ADBL* will automatically be applied to the imported products.

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

Due to the unavailability of Sublocade 100 mg/Syringe Injection (DIN 02483084) and Sublocade 300 mg/Syringe Injection (DIN 02483092) manufactured by Indivior Canada Ltd., American-labelled Sublocade 100 mg/Syringe Injection (PIN 09858127) and Sublocade 300 mg/Syringe Injection (PIN 09858128) will be considered as temporary benefits for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

As of **September 30, 2020**, all claims for Sublocade 100 mg/Syringe Injection (temporary PIN 09858127) and Sublocade 300 mg/Syringe Injection (temporary PIN 09858128) will be adjudicated to the price of **\$550.0000 per syringe**.

Alberta Blue Cross will continue to monitor the availability of the shorted products and potential alternatives, in addition to working with other provinces and territories, manufacturers and Health Canada to address this shortage and minimize the impact on Albertans.

These products are subject to the usual review process by the Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics and must be approved by the Minister of Health 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 Benefits and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct bill drug claims. Visit ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php

