

# Pharmacy Benefact

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

Number 910 • October 2020

## Alberta's Biosimilars Initiative update

Effective **November 1, 2020**, Erelzi (etanercept), which is listed on the *Alberta Drug Benefit List* for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, will be subject to the Biosimilars Initiative. As of November 1, 2020, all Special Authorization requests for etanercept for the treatment of plaque psoriasis will be assessed for coverage with Erelzi. Patients currently taking Enbrel for the indication of plaque psoriasis must switch to Erelzi prior to May 1, 2021, in order to maintain coverage through their Alberta government-sponsored drug plan.

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

Due to the unavailability of Mint-Spironolactone 100 mg Tablet (DIN 02488159), manufactured by Mint Pharmaceuticals Inc., and Teva-Spironolactone 100 mg Tablet (DIN 00613223), manufactured by Teva Canada Limited, Aldactone 100 mg Tablet (DIN 00285455), manufactured by Pfizer Canada ULC., will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

As of **October 5, 2020**, all claims for Aldactone 100 mg Tablet (DIN 00285455) 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* in order to remain as a benefit.

Due to the unavailability of Mint-Spironolactone 25 mg Tablet (DIN 02488140), manufactured by Mint Pharmaceuticals Inc., and Teva-Spironolactone 25 mg Tablet (DIN 00613215), manufactured by Teva Canada Limited, Aldactone 25 mg Tablet (DIN 00028606), manufactured by Pfizer Canada ULC., will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

As of **October 6, 2020**, all claims for Aldactone 25 mg Tablet (DIN 00028606) 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* in order to remain as a benefit.

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)

