

Effective April 1, 2021, TARA, Group 21622 moves to direct bill drug benefit plan.

We are pleased to announce that members of TARA group number 21622 will move from a reimbursement to direct bill drug benefit plan effective April 1, 2021. All direct bill drug claims are to be submitted to Alberta Blue Cross.

New Alberta Blue Cross ID cards

All members of TARA group 21622 have received new Alberta Blue Cross ID cards. Benefits coverage remains the same. Please ensure your patient records are updated to reflect the most current Alberta Blue Cross member ID card information. For your reference an example of the TARA member ID card is provided below.

<p>GENERAL INQUIRIES Contact Alberta Blue Cross at 1-800-661-6995</p> <p>INFORMATION FOR PROVIDERS For provider support with direct billing claims, please call 1-877-272-7778. Pharmacists, add leading zeros to group/policy number and use carrier code 11. Dental providers, use carrier code 00090.</p> <p><small>By presenting this card or Alberta Blue Cross ID number, I consent to the collection, use and disclosure of my personal information as described in the Alberta Blue Cross Privacy Policy posted at ab.bluecross.ca or call 1-800-661-6995.</small></p>	<p>ab.bluecross.ca</p>	<p>ALBERTA BLUE CROSS</p> <p>MEMBER Jane Doe GROUP NAME TARA GROUP/POLICY NUMBER 21622</p> <table><thead><tr><th>ID NUMBER</th><th>NAME</th><th>SECTION</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>123456789-01</td><td>Jane Doe</td><td>A</td></tr><tr><td>123456789-21</td><td>John Doe</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table> <p></p>	ID NUMBER	NAME	SECTION	123456789-01	Jane Doe	A	123456789-21	John Doe	
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123456789-01	Jane Doe	A									
123456789-21	John Doe										

Verify you are using a valid Alberta prescriber identification number and reference code at time of claim.

Alberta Pharmacy providers are reminded that all direct bill pharmacy claims must be submitted with the valid Alberta prescriber identification number and applicable reference code of the prescriber who authorized the prescription.

Valid prescriber identification numbers

As per Benefact 930, January 2021, valid prescriber identification numbers can be referenced on the Alberta College of Pharmacy (ACP) website at <https://abpharmacy.ca>.

The inclusion of alpha characters in prescriber identification numbers will result in a claim rejection code of **D3 – Prescriber not authorized** unless the alpha character is part of the college assigned prescriber identification numbers.

The following prescriber IDs will no longer be considered valid for direct bill claiming purposes:

- Registered Nurse Practitioners with a suffix of “EP” and
- Optometrists with a suffix of “T”

Effective April 12, 2021, continued use of these prescriber IDs will result in a claim rejection. Please reference Benefact 930, January 2021, for additional information.

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PHARMACY BENEFACT

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At time of claim, the appropriate “**Prescriber Reference Code**” and “**Prescriber ID**” as noted in the tables below must be used.

Prescriber type	Reference description	Reference code	Prescriber ID
Dietitians	College of Dietitians of Alberta	83	Actual ID
Midwives	Alberta Association of Midwives	88	Actual ID
Optometrists	Alberta College of Optometrists	87	Actual ID
Pharmacists	Alberta College of Pharmacists	86	Actual ID
Physicians	College of Physician and Surgeons of Alberta	81	Actual ID
Registered Nurse Practitioners	College & Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta	82	Actual ID
Podiatrists	College of Podiatric Physicians of Alberta	89	Actual ID

For the Alberta prescribers listed below, the following “Pseudo IDs” must be used:

Prescriber type	Reference description	Reference code	Prescriber ID
Dentists	Alberta Dental Association & College	85	88111DT
Dental Hygienists	College of Registered Dental Hygienists of Alberta	84	88112DH

The “Pseudo ID” must include the alpha characters as listed above.

For out-of-province prescribers, the appropriate prescriber reference code should be used along with the actual prescriber identification numbers.

Only in circumstances where the prescriber identification number is unknown may the following “Pseudo IDs” be used in conjunction with the appropriate prescriber reference code.

Prescriber type	Reference description	Reference code	Prescriber ID
Dietitians	College of Dietitians of Alberta	83	77111DI
Midwife	Alberta Association of Midwives	88	55111MW
Physicians	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta	81	99111PH
Optometrists	Alberta College of Optometrists	87	44111OP
Podiatrists	College of Podiatric Physicians of Alberta	89	33111PD

The “Pseudo ID” must include the alpha characters as listed above.

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

