

Extension of special authorizations for government-sponsored plans

Measures to protect the health care system, stop the spread of COVID-19 and increase vaccination rates are in effect. Accordingly, the majority of special authorization approvals for Alberta government-sponsored plans that term between October 1, 2021, and November 30, 2021, have been automatically extended by 12 months. In instances where a medication has been recently started, and for certain high-cost drugs, there will be no extensions applied. For these scenarios, a special authorization request must be submitted by the prescriber. Pharmacies will receive one of the following response codes if this happens:

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 stop the spread.

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

