

## Sublocade added to Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) Gap Coverage Program

On April 1, 2020, the Government of Alberta established the Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) Gap Coverage Program (refer to Benefact Number 852, April 2020). The purpose of this program is to provide immediate, no-cost OAT prescription drugs, specifically methadone and buprenorphine/naloxone, to Albertans while they secure drug coverage through a health benefits plan.

Effective November 15, 2021 Sublocade (buprenorphine extended release) will be eligible under the OAT gap coverage program in addition to methadone and buprenorphine/naloxone. Up to 4 syringes of buprenorphine extended release will be eligible representing 120 days of treatment.

This temporary coverage is for up to 120 days of prescribed therapy and during this time the patient is expected to secure coverage for prescription drugs in a supplementary health benefits program. Patients can enroll in any health benefits plan that they choose, but some may require additional support in navigating their options. Information on how to enroll in government-sponsored supplementary health benefit programs is available on the Alberta Health website at [www.alberta.ca/drug-coverage-health-benefits.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/drug-coverage-health-benefits.aspx).

### Enrolment and eligibility

No enrolment form is required to access the OAT Gap Coverage Program. To be eligible, patients must

- NOT have other supplementary health benefits;
- be registered with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan and have a valid Personal Health Number (PHN); pseudo PHNs are NOT eligible under this program, and
- have a valid prescription for buprenorphine extended release, methadone or buprenorphine/naloxone.

More information about this program is available at

[www.alberta.ca/opioid-agonist-therapy-gap-coverage-program.aspx](http://www.alberta.ca/opioid-agonist-therapy-gap-coverage-program.aspx)

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## Eligible products

The following products are eligible under this program effective November 15, 2021.

DIN	Product Description
02247374	Metadol-D 1 mg/ml Oral Solution
02495783	Jamp-Methadone Concentrate 10 mg/ml Oral Liquid
02495872	Odan-Methadone (Cherry Flavour) 10 mg/ml Oral Solution
02495880	Odan-Methadone (Unflavoured) 10 mg/ml Oral Solution
02481979	Methadone Hydrochloride 10 mg/ml Oral Solution
02244290	Metadol-D Concentrate 10 mg/ml Oral Liquid
02394596	Methadose 10 mg/ml Oral Solution
02394618	Methadose Sugar Free 10 mg/ml Oral Solution
02424851	pms-Buprenorphine/Naloxone 2 mg/0.5 mg Sublingual Tablet
02453908	Teva-Buprenorphine/Naloxone 2 mg/0.5 mg Sublingual Tablet
02295695	Suboxone 2 mg/0.5 mg Sublingual Tablet
02424878	pms-Buprenorphine/Naloxone 8 mg/2 mg Sublingual Tablet
02453916	Teva-Buprenorphine/Naloxone 8 mg/2 mg Sublingual Tablet
02295709	Suboxone 8 mg/2 mg Sublingual Tablet
02483084	Sublocade 100 mg/0.5 ml Extended-Release Injection Syringe
02483092	Sublocade 300 mg/1.5 ml Extended-Release Injection Syringe

## Claiming and review processes

Note: If there is an existing drug plan coverage for the patient, pharmacies must ensure that claims are not submitted under the OAT Gap Coverage Program. All claims submitted to Alberta Blue Cross for payment are subject to Compliance Verification Reviews and Alberta Blue Cross retains the right to recover payments when appropriate.

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](http://ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

