

Coverage of pediatric acetaminophen and ibuprofen liquid compounds for government-sponsored low-income programs

Considering the unprecedented shortage of non-prescription liquid pediatric analgesic acetaminophen and ibuprofen, Alberta Health would like to remind pharmacies across the province that compounding of these products will be considered eligible benefits to help mitigate the impact of this shortage for the following government-sponsored low-income programs:

- Child and Family Services (Group 20403)
- Alberta Child Health Benefit (Group 20400)
- Children and Youth Services (Group 19824)
- Income Support (Group 19823)
- Learners Program (Group 22128)
- Alberta Human Services (AISH) (Group 19823)
- Alberta Adult Health Benefit (AAHB) (Group 23609)

It is recommended that pharmacy providers obtain compound verification *before* billing for compounds to ensure all ingredients within the compound are eligible benefits under the member's plan. Please note that verification can be completed in advance of a patient requiring a compound for these products and only one verification per pharmacy is required. At the time of the call, a Provider Relations Contact Center representative will verify the compound and provide the pharmacy provider with a verification number and the date the compound verification will expire if the compound is eligible.

Claims for acetaminophen and ibuprofen compounds may be claimed using the following PINs:

PIN	Product description
0999113	Compound - Miscellaneous Oral
0999214	Compound - Miscellaneous Oral

Acetaminophen and ibuprofen compound eligibility under Alberta Blue Cross group and personal plans

As eligibility for acetaminophen and ibuprofen products may vary on Alberta Blue Cross group and personal plans, we ask that pharmacy providers verify these compounds with a Provider Relations Contact Center representative at **1-800-361-9632 – select option 2.**

General compound information

As per section 3.11 and Appendix B of the Alberta Blue Cross Pharmaceutical Services Provider Agreement, Alberta Blue Cross has the right to conduct compliance verification reviews for claims, including claims for compounded prescriptions provided to members.

We're happy to help

If you have questions about a compound authorization or other claim inquiries, please contact the Provider Relations contact centre at 780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area), 403-294-4041 (Calgary and area) or 1-800-361-9632 (toll free).

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LCA price policy reapplied to methadone 10mg/ml oral solutions on the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*

Due to a Health Canada safety advisory regarding 'Methadone Treatment of Opioid Dependence and Potential Differences in Product Effect', the designation of interchangeability and LCA price policy for methadone 10mg/ml oral solutions on the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)* was temporarily suspended.

After review and correspondence with Health Canada, the

Expert Committee has recommended that the temporary suspension end and the designation of interchangeability be reinstated.

As a result, the designation of interchangeability will be reinstated and the LCA price policy will be reapplied to methadone 10mg/ml oral solutions on the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)* effective **December 1, 2022**.

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

Due to the unavailability of Admelog 100 unit/ml Injection Cartridge (DIN 02469898) manufactured by Sanofi - Aventis, Humalog 100 unit/ml Injection Cartridge (DIN 02229705) manufactured by Eli Lilly Canada Inc., will be considered a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*. This grouping was added to the Critical Supply Product List on **June 21, 2022**.

As of **October 31, 2022**, all claims for Humalog 100 unit/ml Injection Cartridge (DIN 02229705) 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 ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php.

Due to the unavailability of Admelog Pen 100 unit/ml Injection (DIN 02469871) manufactured by Sanofi - Aventis, Humalog 100 unit/ml Injection Kwippen (DIN 02403412) manufactured by Eli Lilly Canada Inc. will be considered a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*. This grouping was added to the Critical Supply Product List on **June 21, 2022**.

As of **November 2, 2022** and until further notice, all claims for Humalog 100 unit/ml Injection Kwippen (DIN 02403412) will be adjudicated to the price published in the most recent *Alberta Blue Cross Drug Price List (ABCDPL)*. The *ABCDPL* is available online at ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php.

If this situation continues to be a long-term matter, then 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 for addition to the *ADBL* 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

