

Reminder: fee adjustment to assessment for administration of COVID-19 vaccine

As previously communicated in Benefact #1132, issued on October 5, 2023, and Benefact #1151, issued on December 21, 2023, the following fee adjustment to the assessment for administration of COVID-19 vaccine is upcoming.

- Effective April 1, 2024, the fee will be reduced to \$13 in alignment with other publicly funded vaccines.

Product supply shortages addressed for *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*

Alberta Blue Cross has confirmed that the shortage for Auro-Valganciclovir 450 mg Tablet (DIN 02435179) and Mint-Valganciclovir 450 mg Tablet (DIN 02495457) has been resolved. Due to the long-term nature of this shortage, a transition period will be applied, and as a result, the Least Cost Alternative (LCA) price policy will be reapplied to the following grouping effective **April 19, 2024**. The following grouping was removed from the Critical Supply Product List **March 20, 2024**.

VALGANCICLOVIR HCL

450 MG TABLET

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|-----|------------|
| 00002435179 | AURO-VALGANCICLOVIR | AUR | \$ 5.8553 |
| 00002495457 | MINT-VALGANCICLOVIR | MPI | \$ 5.8553 |
| 00002413825 | TEVA-VALGANCICLOVIR | TEV | \$ 5.8553 |
| 00002245777 | VALCYTE | CAG | \$ 25.9441 |

Alberta Blue Cross has confirmed that the shortage for Octreotide Acetate Omega 100 mcg/ml Injection (DIN 02248640) manufactured by Omega Laboratories Limited has been resolved. Due to the long-term nature of this shortage, a transition period will be applied, and as a result, the LCA price policy will be reapplied to the following grouping effective **April 22, 2024**. The following grouping was removed from the Critical Supply Product List **March 21, 2024**.

OCTREOTIDE ACETATE

100 MCG/ML INJECTION

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|-----|-----------|
| 00002248640 | OCTREOTIDE ACETATE | OMG | \$ 7.5660 |
| 00000839205 | SANDOSTATIN | NOV | \$ 9.7135 |

continued next page

continued from previous page

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

Due to the unavailability of Efudex 5% Topical Cream (DIN 00330582) manufactured by Bausch Health, Tolak 4% Topical Cream (DIN 02485346) manufactured by Hill Dermaceuticals will be considered a temporary benefit for the *ADBL*. This grouping was added to the Critical Supply Product List **March 21, 2024**.

As of **March 21, 2024**, all claims for Tolak 4% Topical Cream (DIN 02485346) 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/provider/type/pharmacy/home.php.

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

