

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PHARMACY PROVIDERS

Alberta Blue Cross® administers benefits for the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), including support for their Extended Health Benefits (EHB) for Seniors and Métis Health Benefits programs, as well as the Specified Disease Condition program. In September 2023, the GNWT announced a new EHB program to replace the Specified Disease Conditions program. The Specified Disease Conditions program will end on September 2, 2024. The new EHB program will become effective on September 3, 2024, and will follow an annual income assessment for benefit eligibility.

The replacement of the Specified Disease Conditions program with the new EHB program will have no impact on seniors aged 60 and older, as their current benefits remain unchanged. Similarly, there are no changes for residents who access the Métis Health Benefits.

Any GNWT plan member inquiries, including Specified Disease Conditions plan members, can be directed to the [GNWT website](#) for further information. The [GNWT website](#) hosts all the program details and additional information, including [how to apply](#) and the [frequently asked questions](#) document.

Residents enrolled in the new GNWT EHB program will receive new ID cards from Alberta Blue Cross. These cards will have new ID numbers, as well as the new group number 23724. Under the new EHB program, coverage for pharmacy and medical supply benefits will vary dependent upon income band. For information regarding income thresholds and cost sharing arrangements, please visit the [GNWT website](#).

Drug benefits

Pharmacy services and eligible products for all GNWT programs can be found in the [Non-insured health benefits guide to drug and pharmacy benefits](#), and more detailed information on the EHB pharmacy coverage can be found in the [Extended Health Benefits Policy \(PDF\)](#).

Pharmacy claims for eligible residents may be submitted electronically through the Alberta Blue Cross PrideRT system with the below information:

- Group: 23724
- Carrier Code: 11
- ID number: enter as a 10-digit number (filled with leading zeros)

All pricing rules will remain the same. The GNWT EHB program is payer of last resort for coordination of benefits. For additional information on all GNWT sponsored benefits plans, please see the [GNWT pharmacy reference guide for prescription drugs](#).

Medical supply benefits

Eligible medical supplies and equipment for all GNWT programs can be found in the [Non-insured health benefits medical supplies and equipment guide and benefit list](#). More detailed information on the EHB medical supply and equipment coverage is available on the [GNWT website](#) and in the [Extended Health Benefits Policy \(PDF\)](#). Information on billing medical supplies and equipment to Alberta Blue Cross, including products available for direct bill through the Alberta Blue Cross PrideRT system, can be found in the [GNWT pharmacy reference guide for medical supplies and equipment](#).

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Travel benefits

To learn more about coverage for travel-related expenses associated with accessing eligible medical supplies and equipment or pharmacy benefits, please review the [Extended Health Benefits Policy \(PDF\)](#).

Alberta Blue Cross strives to provide quality service to pharmacy providers. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of our Provider Relations contact centre representatives at 1-800-361-9632, open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends and statutory holidays.

Important links

- GNWT pharmacy reference guide for prescription drugs:
<https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/gnwt-pharmacy-drug-reference-guide.pdf>
- GNWT pharmacy reference guide for medical supplies and equipment:
<https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/pdfs/gnwt-pharmacy-med-supplies-reference-guide.pdf>
- GNWT website regarding Extended Health Benefits:
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/implementing-2024-extended-health-benefits-policy>
- How to apply for Extended Health Benefits:
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/applying-extended-health-benefits>
- Frequently asked questions:
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/implementing-2024-extended-health-benefits-policy/frequently-asked-questions>
- Income thresholds and cost sharing arrangement:
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/implementing-2024-extended-health-benefits-policy/income-thresholds-and-cost-sharing>
- GNWT Extended Health Benefits Policy (PDF):
<https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/sites/hss/files/resources/extended-health-benefits-policy.pdf>
- NIHB drug and pharmacy benefits:
<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1574784515492/1574784549876>
- NIHB medical supply benefits:
<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1585320116553/1585320137871>

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

