Number 901 • September 2020

As a reminder Quantity Authorizations are suspended

Effective immediately, the approval process for any requests for Quantity Authorizations for Alberta Health-sponsored drug programs in excess of 100-days' supply continue to remain suspended at this time. No exceptions will be made. Non-essential travel continues to be strongly discouraged as per the Government of Canada and Government of Alberta.

Removal of temporary benefit from the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)

Due to the shortage of Methotrexate Sodium 25 mg/ml Injection (Unpreserved) (DIN 02182955) manufactured by Pfizer Canada ULC and Methotrexate Sodium 25 mg/ml Injection (Unpreserved) (DIN 02099705) manufactured by Teva Canada Limited, Methotrexate Sodium 10 mg/ml Injection (Unpreserved) (DIN 02182947) manufactured by Pfizer Canada ULC was added as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

Pfizer Canada ULC advised Alberta Blue Cross that the shortage of Methotrexate Sodium 25 mg/ml Injection (Unpreserved) (DIN 02182955) has been resolved. As a result, Methotrexate Sodium 10 mg/ml Injection (Unpreserved) (DIN 02182947) will no longer be considered a temporary benefit for the ADBL after **October 26, 2020**. These products were removed from the Critical Supply Product List **September 24, 2020**.

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

Alberta Blue Cross has been advised by Pharmascience Inc. and Teva Canada Limited that the shortages for pms-Nabilone 1 mg Capsule (DIN 02380919) and Teva-Nabilone 1 mg Capsule (DIN 02384892) have been resolved. Due to the long-term nature of these shortages, a transition period will be applied, and as a result, the LCA price policy will be reapplied to the following grouping effective **October 26, 2020**. The following grouping was removed from the Critical Supply Product List **September 24, 2020**.

NABILONE

1 MG TABLET

00002380919	PMS-NABILONE	PMS	\$ 1.5513
00002384892	TEVA-NABILONE	TEV	\$ 1.5513
00000548375	CESAMET	VCL	\$ 6.9739

Alberta Blue Cross has been advised by Mylan Pharmaceuticals ULC that the shortage for Mylan-Verapamil SR 240 mg Sustained-Release Tablet (DIN 02450496) 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 **October 29, 2020**. The following grouping was removed from the Critical Supply Product List **September 29, 2020**.

VERAPAMIL HCL

240 MG SUSTAINED-RELEASE TABLET

00002246895	APO-VERAP SR	APX	\$ 0.5075
00002450496	MYLAN-VERAP SR	MYP	\$ 0.5075
00000742554	ISOPTIN SR	BGP	\$ 2.2944

Alberta Blue Cross has been advised by Mylan Pharmaceuticals ULC that the shortage for Mylan-Verapamil SR 180 mg Sustained-Release Tablet (DIN 02450488) 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 **November 2, 2020**. The following grouping was removed from the Critical Supply Product List **September 30, 2020**.

VERAPAMIL HCL

180 MG SUSTAINED-RELEASE TABLET

00002450488	MYLAN-VERAP SR	MYP	\$ 0.5204
00001934317	ISOPTIN SR	BGP	\$ 1.7139

When you have questions:

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**



