

Effective **November 1, 2020**, the Alberta Biosimilars Initiative will be updated with the following changes that will affect adult members on Alberta government-sponsored drug plans.

**Addition of etanercept biosimilar for the indication of plaque psoriasis**

1. **Special Authorization -Switching and new starts**

On November 1, 2020, Erelzi (etanercept), manufactured by Sandoz Canada Inc. will be listed on the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL) for the treatment of plaque psoriasis and will be subject to the Biosimilars Initiative.

Effective November 1, 2020, all Special Authorization requests for new etanercept starts for the treatment of plaque psoriasis will be assessed for coverage with Erelzi. Patients currently taking Enbrel for the indication of plaque psoriasis will be required to switch to the biosimilar version by May 1, 2021 in order to maintain coverage for this molecule through their Alberta government-sponsored drug plan.

2. **Special Authorization –Tiering**

Erelzi will be added to the list of first-line therapeutic options for plaque psoriasis that patients may try before gaining access to the tier 2 drug, Stelara.