

Pharmacy Benefact

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

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Step Therapy drugs

Alberta Blue Cross individual and select employer-sponsored group plans

Please see the below reference sheet for a listing of eligible drugs under the Step Therapy process. As part of the ongoing management of new drug therapies, the listing of Step Therapy drugs will continue to be updated as new drugs are added to the process. Please be aware that the eligible Step Therapy drugs for Alberta Blue Cross Group and Individual Product plans are different from those for the government program.

Step drug	Available intervention codes for Alberta Blue Cross group and individual plans	First-line therapy
Cabergoline (Dostinex) Quinagolide (Norprolac)	UP/UQ UP/UQ	Bromocriptine
Colesevelam (Lodalis)	UP/UQ	HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors ("statins")
Canagliflozin (Invokana) Exenatide (Byetta) Linagliptin (Trajenta) Linagliptin/Metformin (Jentadueto) Liraglutide (Victoza) Pioglitazone (Actos) Rosiglitazone (Avandia) Rosiglitazone/Metformin (Avandamet) Saxagliptin (Onglyza) Saxagliptin/Metformin (Komboglyze) Sitagliptin (Januvia) Sitagliptin/Metformin (Janumet)	UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ	Metformin, or meglitinides, or sulfonylureas
Diclofenac oral powder (Cambia)	UP/UQ	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and triptans
Doxycycline monohydrate (Aprilon)	UP/UQ	Topical antiparasitic agents
Fidaxomicin (Dificid)	UP/UQ	Metronidazole or Vancomycin
Montelukast (Singulair)	UP/UQ	Inhaled corticosteroids, or inhaled beta agonist, or antihistamines, or nasal steroids
Darifenacin (Enablex) Fesoterodine (Toviaz) Mirabegron (Myrbetriq) Oxybutynin Controlled Release (Uromax)	UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ	Immediate release Oxybutynin

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Step drug	Available intervention codes for Alberta Blue Cross group and individual plans	First-line therapy
Oxybutynin Extended Release (Ditropan XL)	UP/UQ	Immediate release Oxybutynin
Oxybutynin Topical Gel (Gelnique)	UP/UQ	
Oxybutynin Transdermal patch (Oxytrol)	UP/UQ	
Solifenacin (Vesicare)	UP/UQ	
Tolterodine (Detrol LA or Detrol)	UP/UQ	
Trospium (Trosec)	UP/UQ	
Pimecrolimus (Elidel)	UP/UQ	Topical corticosteroids
Tacrolimus (Protopic)	UP/UQ	
Risedronate Extended Release (Actonel DR)	UP/UQ	Regular release Risedronate
Stiripentol (Diacomit)	UP/UQ	Valproate and Clobazam
Zafirlukast (Accolate)	UP/UQ	Inhaled corticosteroids, or inhaled beta agonist

Please see next page for a listing of Step Therapy drugs for Alberta government-sponsored programs.

Step Therapy drugs

Alberta Blue Cross government-sponsored programs

Step drug	Available intervention codes for Alberta government-sponsored programs*	First-line therapy/criteria
Alfuzosin (Xatral)	UP/UQ	For applicable first-line therapy and for Special Authorization criteria, please see the <i>iDBL</i> .
Apixaban (Eliquis)	UP/UQ	
Dabigatran (Pradaxa)	UP/UQ	
Rivaroxaban (Xarelto 15 mg and 20 mg)	UP/UQ	
Aztreonam (Cayston)	UP/UQ	
Cabergoline (Dostinex)	UP/UQ	
Quinagolide (Norprolac)	UP/UQ	
Deferasirox (Exjade)	UP/UQ	
Linagliptin (Trajenta)	UP/UQ/CA/CB/CJ	
Saxagliptin (Onglyza)	UP/UQ/CA/CB/CJ	
Sitagliptin (Januvia)	UP/UQ/CA/CB/CJ	
Sitagliptin/Metformin (Janumet)	UP/UQ/CA/CB/CJ	
Pioglitazone (Actos)	UP/UQ UP/UQ UP/UQ	
Rosiglitazone (Avandia)	UP/UQ	
Rosiglitazone/Metformin (Avandamet)	UP/UQ	
Darifenacin (Enablex)	UP/UQ	
Fesoterodine (Toviaz)	UP/UQ	
Solifenacin (Vesicare)	UP/UQ	
Tolterodine Extended Release (Detrol LA)	UP/UQ	
Trospium (Trosec)	UP/UQ	
Tizanidine (Zanaflex)	UP/UQ	

* You may deem it appropriate to use one or more of the intervention codes noted in this table.

When you have questions:

For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations call centre representative at:

780-498-8370 (Edmonton and area) • 403-294-4041 (Calgary and area) • 1-800-361-9632 (toll free)

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