

# Pharmacy Benefact

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

Number 537 • August 2015

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

Alberta Blue Cross has been advised by Apotex Inc. that the shortage of Apo-Methylphenidate SR 20 mg Extended-Release Tablet (DIN 02266687) 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 August 31, 2015**.

### METHYLPHENIDATE HCL

#### 20 MG ORAL EXTENDED-RELEASE TABLET

00002266687	APO-METHYLPHENIDATE SR	APX	\$ 0.2820
00002320312	SANDOZ METHYLPHENIDATE	SDZ	\$ 0.2820
00000632775	RITALIN SR	NOV	\$ 0.6357

Alberta Blue Cross has been advised by Apotex Inc. that the shortage of Apo-Doxepin 25 mg Capsule (DIN 02050005) 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 August 31, 2015**.

### DOXEPIN HCL

#### 25 MG (BASE) ORAL CAPSULE

00002050005	APO-DOXEPIN	APX	\$ 0.2940
00000024333	SINEQUAN	ERF	\$ 0.3140

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

Due to the shortage of pms-Hydrochlorothiazide 12.5 mg Tablet (DIN 02274086), manufactured by Pharmascience Inc., Apo-Hydro 12.5 mg Tablet (DIN 02327856), manufactured by Apotex Inc., was added as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

Pharmascience Inc. has advised Alberta Blue Cross that the shortage of pms-Hydrochlorothiazide 12.5 mg Tablet (DIN 02274086) has now been resolved.

As a result, Apo-Hydro 12.5 mg Tablet (DIN 02327856) will no longer be considered as a temporary benefit for the *ADBL* **after September 5, 2015**.

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

Due to the unavailability of Apo-Propafenone 300 mg Tablet (DIN 02243325), manufactured by Apotex Inc., and Rythmol 300 mg Tablet (DIN 00603716), manufactured by BGP Pharma ULC, pms-Propafenone 300 mg Tablet (DIN 02294575), manufactured by Pharmascience Inc., will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

As of August 4, 2015, all claims for pms-Propafenone 300 mg Tablet (DIN 02294575) 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 <https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.html>.

If this situation continues to be a long-term matter then this product is subject to the usual review process by the Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics, and must be approved by the Minister of Health for addition to the *ADBL* in order to remain as a benefit.

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### 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)

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