

Pharmacy Benefact

A BULLETIN FOR PHARMACY SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ALBERTA BLUE CROSS

Number 758 • September 2018

Interim Order Issued by Health Canada for Epinephrine Shortage

On August 29, 2018, Health Canada issued an interim order to allow the import of Auvi-Q 0.3 mg Auto-Injector Syringe from the USA and has issued the product a temporary Product Identification Number (PIN 02480379). The interim order was issued as an emergency measure and response to the unavailability of Epipen 1:1000 Auto Injector Syringe (DIN 00509558).

For more information regarding the interim order issued by Health Canada, please refer to the following webpage: healthycanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2018/67658a-eng.php

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

Due to the unavailability of Epipen 1:1000 Auto Injector Syringe (DIN 00509558), Auvi-Q 0.3 mg Auto-Injector Syringe (PIN 02480379) will be considered as a temporary benefit for the *Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL)*.

PIN	Product Description	Unit Price
02480379	Auvi-Q 0.3 mg Auto-Injector Syringe	\$170.0000

As of **August 29, 2018**, all claims for the above product will be adjudicated to the price of **\$170.0000 per auto-injector syringe**.

Please note that although this product is sold as a package of two with an auto-injector and trainer device, Health Canada has indicated that single auto-injectors may be dispensed as necessary to conserve supply and patient instructions for use must be provided with each Auvi-Q Auto-Injector dispensed.

Alberta Blue Cross will continue to monitor the availability of the shorted products and potential alternatives, in addition to working with other provinces and territories, manufacturers and Health Canada to address this shortage and minimize the impact on Albertans.

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 be a formal benefit.

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



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