

## ALBERTA

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### Part I PROVINCIAL COVERAGE PROVISIONS

Supports for people with diabetes

#### Alberta Health and Wellness

- Alberta Health and Wellness contracts with Alberta Blue Cross to offer three supplementary health plans for Albertans: Non-Group Coverage, Coverage for Seniors, and Palliative Care Drug Coverage. Non-Group coverage can be purchased for an individual or family (consistent with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan coverage and policies). A Non-Group premium subsidy is available for those who qualify. No premiums for Coverage for Seniors or Palliative Care Drug Coverage. No deductibles for any of the plans.
- Non-Group Individual / Family: at least 70% govt payment to a maximum of \$25,000/year per recipient, individual co-pays 30% to a maximum of \$25 per prescription.
- AMFH<sup>3</sup> program, administered by the Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA) provides some funding for diabetic supplies for people with low income and without private insurance: those using insulin \$550/year; oral diabetes medication \$250/year; diet \$100/year.

#### Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry

- Children in low income families: ACHB<sup>4</sup> provides premium-free health benefits, based on family size and family net income plus non-taxable child support payments received, and includes up to 100% coverage for medication and essential diabetic supplies.
- Income Support up to 100% coverage for medication, essential diabetic supplies and up to a maximum of \$40/month for diabetic diet benefits.
- AAHB<sup>5</sup> provides premium free health benefits to families leaving Income Support or AISH<sup>6</sup> for employment or excess Canada Pension Plan – Disability (CPP-D) income. AAHB clients receive up to 100% coverage for medication and essential diabetic supplies. Eligibility is assessed annually based on family size and prior year family net income plus non-taxable child support payments received.

#### Seniors and Community Supports

- Seniors (65 years of age and older and lower-income) through the Special Needs Assistance for Seniors Program (SNASP) may receive additional coverage up to \$5000 /year for eligible medical and diabetic expenses.
- AISH clients receive up to 100% coverage for medication and essential diabetic supplies and up to \$40/month for diabetic diet benefits.

<sup>3</sup>AMFH: Alberta Monitoring for Health

<sup>4</sup>ACHB: Alberta Child Health Benefit

<sup>5</sup>AAHB: Alberta Adult Health Benefit

<sup>6</sup>AISH: Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

Emergency assistance	<p><b>Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Requests are reviewed on a case by case basis by the Income Support or AAHB programs to assist persons who normally have sufficient income to meet their needs but have a short-term need which they are unable to afford – this could include diabetes supplies or medication.</li> </ul>
Formulary status of diabetes drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Listed: acarbose / chlorpropamide / gliclazide / glyburide / Glucagon / insulin lispro (most) / insulin aspart / insulins (regular) / metformin / pioglitazone (Actos) / repaglinide (GlucNorm) / rosiglitazone (Avandia) / tolbutamide / rosiglitazone maleate &amp; metformin HCL (Avandamet)</li> <li>➤ Restricted: None</li> <li>➤ Not listed: Diamicon MR (gliclazide) / glimepiride (Amaryl) / nateglinide (Starlix)</li> <li>➤ For persons receiving health benefits through the Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry programs, drugs not listed on the formularies may be authorized by the Health Benefits Review Committee if medical documentation is sufficient to establish the need and other drugs listed on the formulary are ineffective or not appropriate due to side effects or other medical considerations.</li> </ul>

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Part 2 ACCESS TO MEDICATION AND SUPPLIES						
(✓) indicates access is available, subject to income, age, or other provisions or restrictions listed in Part 1. (x) indicates access is not available. (*) indicates special circumstances. See Comment column.						
	Individuals & Families	Seniors	Low Income	Income Support, ACHB and AAHB	AISH	Comment
<b>Prescription medication</b>						
• Insulin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
• Oral agents	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Testing supplies</b>						
• Lancets	*	✓	*	✓	✓	* for those on AMFH
• Monitors/meters	x	x	x	✓	✓	Up to \$70 one-time for those on Income Support and AISH
• Test strips (BG)	*	*	*	✓	✓	* for those on AMFH or SNASP
• Test strips (Ketone)	*	*	*	✓	✓	* for those on AMFH or SNASP
<b>Insulin delivery</b>						
• Pen needles	*	*	*	✓	✓	*for those on AMFH
• Pumps	x	x	x	*	*	*may be provided through the Health Benefits Review Committee authorization
• Pump supplies	*	*	*	✓	✓	* Infusion sets only for those on AMFH
• Syringes	*	*	*	✓	✓	* for those on AMFH or SNASP