



First Nations Health Authority  
Health through wellness

# Summary of Diabetes Drugs, Insulins, and Supplies Coverage for FNHA Clients

This document provides a summary list of the coverage status of the different diabetes drugs, insulins and related supplies for clients of the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA). Please note that benefit coverage of some drugs is subject to criteria and require the prescriber to submit a Special Authority request. In exceptional cases, the prescriber may provide a written request for Special Authority for a drug that is a non-benefit or when the general Special Authority criteria is not met.

## DIABETES DRUGS

Drug Chemical (common brand names)	Plan Wellness Formulary. Coverage for Drug Started on or after Oct. 1, 2017	Additional Comments
<b>Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibitor</b>		
Acarbose (Glucobay, generics)	Non-Benefit	If drug was started before Oct. 1, 2017, it is eligible for coverage through the exceptional Special Authority process.
<b>Biguanide</b>		
Metformin (Glucophage, generics)	Benefit	
<b>Dipeptidyl Peptidase-4 (DPP-4) Inhibitor</b>		
Alogliptin and Alogliptin with Metformin (Nesina, Kazano)	Non-Benefit	
Linagliptin and Linagliptin with Metformin (Trajenta, Jentadueto)	Requires Special Authority	
Saxagliptin and Saxagliptin with Metformin (Onglyza, Komboglyze)	Requires Special Authority	
Sitagliptin and Sitagliptin with Metformin (Januvia, Janumet)	Non-Benefit	
<b>GLP-1 Receptor Agonist/Incretin Mimetic</b>		
Dulaglutide (Trulicity)	Non-Benefit	
Exenatide (Bydureon, Byetta)	Non-Benefit	

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\*DISCLAIMER: This information is current as of September 16, 2019. Visit the PharmaCare formulary search website for the most up-to-date Plan W drug listings. For general coverage questions, contact the FNHA Health Benefits toll-free line: 1-855-550-5454

Liraglutide (Victoza)	Non-Benefit	
Lixisenatide (Adlyxine)	Non-Benefit	
Lixisenatide with Insulin Glargine (Soliqua)	Under Review	
Semaglutide (Ozempic)	Under Review	
<b>Meglitinide</b>		
Repaglinide (Gluconorm, generics)	Non-Benefit	If drug was started before Oct. 1, 2017 coverage will continue through Pacific Blue Cross.
<b>Sulfonylurea</b>		
Chlorpropamide (Generics)	Benefit	
Gliclazide (Diamicon, generics)	Benefit	
Glimepiride (Generics)	Non-Benefit	
Glyburide (Diabeta, generics)	Benefit	
Tolbutamide (Generic)	Benefit	
<b>SGLT-2 Inhibitor</b>		
Canagliflozin and Canagliflozin with Metformin (Invokana, Invokamet)	Under Review	If drug was started before Oct. 1, 2017 coverage will continue in Plan W through exceptional Special Authority process.
Dapagliflozin and Dapagliflozin with Metformin (Forxiga, Xigduo)	Non-Benefit	If drug was started before Oct. 1, 2017 coverage will continue in Plan W through exceptional Special Authority process.
Empagliflozin and Empagliflozin with Metformin (Jardiance, Synjardy)	Requires Special Authority	
Ertugliflozin and Ertugliflozin with Metformin (Steglatro, Segluromet)	Non-Benefit	
<b>Thiazolidinedione (TZD)</b>		
Pioglitazone (Generics)	Requires Special Authority	If drug was started before Oct. 1, 2017 coverage will continue through PharmaCare.
Rosiglitazone (Avandia)	Non-Benefit	If drug was started before Oct. 1, 2017 it is eligible for coverage through the exceptional Special Authority process.

## INSULINS

Drug Chemical (common brand names)	Plan Wellness Formulary. Coverage for Drug Started on or after Oct. 1, 2017	Additional Comments
<b>Short-Acting Insulin</b>		
Insulin Aspart (Novorapid)	Partial Benefit	Claims for short-acting and mixed insulins for FNHA Clients with coverage under BC Pharmacare Plan W can be submitted to Pacific Blue Cross as a secondary payer, to allow for reimbursement above the BC Pharmacare LCA price for these items.
Insulin Glulisine (Apidra)	Partial Benefit	
Insulin Lispro (Humalog)	Partial Benefit	
<b>Regular Insulin</b>		
Insulin Regular (Humulin R, Novolin Ge Toronto)	Benefit	
<b>Intermediate-Acting Insulin</b>		
Insulin NPH (Humulin N, Novolin Ge Nph)	Benefit	
<b>Long-Acting Insulin</b>		
Insulin Detemir (Levemir)	Requires Special Authority (unless prescribed by an Endocrinologist)	
Insulin Degludec (Tresiba)	Non-Benefit	
Insulin Glargine U100 (Basaglar, Lantus®)	Basaglar: Benefit Lantus: Non-Benefit	If Lantus was started before May 27, 2019, coverage will continue in Plan W.
Insulin Glargine U300 (Toujeo)	Non-Benefit	
<b>Mixed Insulin</b>		
Insulin Regular/NPH Premixed (Humulin 30/70, Novolin Ge 40/60)	Benefit	
Insulin Lispro/Lispro Protamine (Humalog Mix)	Partial Benefit	Claims for short-acting and mixed insulins for FNHA Clients with coverage under BC Pharmacare Plan W can be submitted to Pacific Blue Cross as a secondary payer, to allow for reimbursement above the BC Pharmacare LCA price for these items.
Insulin Aspart/Aspart Protamine (Novomix 30)	Partial Benefit	

## DIABETES SUPPLIES

Item Name	Plan Wellness Formulary	Additional Comments
Insulin pumps	Requires Special Authority	Limited to one insulin pump every 5 years
Insulin pump supplies	Benefit	Call the FNHA at 1-855-550-5454 for any coverage or co-payment questions
Urine ketone strips	Benefit	
Blood ketone strips	Benefit	
Alcohol swabs	Benefit	
Lancets	Benefit	
Needles and Syringes – Insulin Use Only	Benefit	
Sharps containers	Non-Benefit	Available as a benefit through Pacific Blue Cross (Note to Pharmacists: PBC Pharmacy Fee Supplement for FNHA Clients)
Blood glucose test strips	Annual Quantity Limits Apply. Additional strips require Special Authority. Clients are encouraged to attend an education program at a Diabetes Education Centre however this is not mandatory at this time.	Note to Pharmacists and Diabetes Educators: Contact the FNHA to put a Diabetes Education Certificate flag for the client on their Plan W profile.

## REFERENCES

Topic	Reference	Content
Insulin pumps and supplies	<a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/diabetes-product-identification-numbers-pins#insulin-pumps">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/diabetes-product-identification-numbers-pins#insulin-pumps</a>	List of brands of insulin pumps (MiniMed, Omnipod) and supplies covered for FNHA clients
BC PharmaCare Coverage Limits for Blood Glucose Test Strips – Test With Purpose	<a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare/bgts.pdf">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare/bgts.pdf</a>	Annual quantity limit for blood glucose test strips; links to resources with information on the recommended frequency of blood glucose testing
Diabetes Canada: Diabetes and You	<a href="http://www.diabetes.ca/diabetes-and-you">www.diabetes.ca/diabetes-and-you</a>	Resources for individuals to support their role in diabetes management
Plan W Non-drug OTC Treatments	<a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/plan-w-non-drug-otc-benefits">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/plan-w-non-drug-otc-benefits</a>	List of PINs for Diabetic supplies such as ketone strips, lancets, alcohol swabs etc.
Pacific Blue Cross Pharmacy Fee Supplement for FNHA Clients	<a href="https://www.pac.bluecross.ca/pdf-bin/FNHA/0799.010_FNHA-PHARMACY-FeeSupplement.pdf">https://www.pac.bluecross.ca/pdf-bin/FNHA/0799.010_FNHA-PHARMACY-FeeSupplement.pdf</a>	PBC PINs for sharps container
Diabetes Product Identification Numbers (PINs)	<a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/diabetes-product-identification-numbers-pins">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/diabetes-product-identification-numbers-pins</a>	Lists of PINs for needles/syringes (insulin use) and Blood Glucose Test Strips
Diabetes Canada: Clinical Practice & Education	<a href="http://www.diabetes.ca/clinical-practice-education">www.diabetes.ca/clinical-practice-education</a>	Resources for health care providers and diabetes educators to inform and guide the best care of people with diabetes

**NOTE:** Non-Plan W clients (e.g., BC clients accessing border pharmacies in Alberta) will access coverage for all diabetes drugs, insulins and supplies through Pacific Blue Cross.