



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

Coverage for Diabetes Items

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 Limited Coverage 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. PharmaCare [Low Cost Alternative Program](#) applies to some brand drugs.

DIABETES DRUGS

DRUG CHEMICAL (BRAND NAMES)	PLAN WELLNESS FORMULARY
BIGUANIDE	
Metformin (Glucophage, generics)	Benefit
DIPEPTIDYL PEPTIDASE-4 (DPP-4) INHIBITOR	
Linagliptin and Linagliptin with Metformin (Trajenta, Jentaduetto)	Requires Special Authority
Saxagliptin and Saxagliptin with Metformin (Onglyza, Komboglyze)	Requires Special Authority
GLP-1 RECEPTOR AGONIST/INCRETIN MIMETIC	
Semaglutide (Ozempic)	Ozempic: Requires Special Authority
SULFONYLUREA	
Gliclazide (Diamicron, generics)	Benefit
Glyburide (Generics)	Benefit

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*DISCLAIMER: This information is current as of October 2024. 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

SGLT-2 INHIBITOR

Empagliflozin and Empagliflozin with Metformin (Diamicron, generics)	Requires Special Authority
Dapagliflozin (Forxiga)	Benefit

THIAZOLIDINEDIONE (TZD)

Pioglitazone
(Generics)

[Requires Special Authority](#)

INSULINS

DRUG CHEMICAL (BRAND NAMES)

PLAN WELLNESS FORMULARY

RAPID-ACTING INSULIN

Insulin Aspart (NovoRapid, Trurapi, Kirsty)	Trurapi, Kirsty: Benefit
Insulin Glulisine (Apidra)	Benefit
Insulin Lispro (Humalog, Admelog)	Admelog: Benefit

REGULAR INSULIN

Insulin Regular (Humulin R, Novolin Ge Toronto, Entuzity)	Benefit
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INTERMEDIATE-ACTING INSULIN

Insulin NPH (Humulin N, Novolin Ge NPH)	Benefit
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LONG-ACTING INSULIN

Insulin Detemir (Levemir)	Requires Special Authority (unless prescribed by an Endocrinologist)
Insulin Glargine U100 (Basaglar, Semglee)	Basaglar, Semglee: Benefit

MIXED INSULIN

Insulin Regular/NPH Premixed (Humulin 30/70, Novolin Ge 30/70, 40/60, 50/50)	Benefit
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DIABETES SUPPLIES

ITEM NAME	PLAN WELLNESS FORMULARY	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
Insulin pumps (Omnipod Insulin Management System, YpsoPump, MiniMed Insulin Pump System)	Requires Special Authority	Limited to one insulin pump every 5 years. See BC PharmaCare coverage of Insulin pumps for more details.
Insulin pump supplies	Benefit	
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 (PBC). Note to Pharmacists: PBC Pharmacy Fee Supplement for FNHA Clients.
Continuous Glucose Monitor (Dexcom G6® CGM, Dexcom G7® CGM)	Requires Special Authority Annual quantity limits apply to the sensor and transmitter.	Only the sensor and transmitter of Dexcom G6 and G7® CGM brand are covered.
Flash Glucose Monitor (FreeStyle Libre 2® FGM)	Requires Special Authority Annual quantity limits apply to the sensor and reader.	Only the sensor and reader of FreeStyle Libre 2® FGM are covered.
Blood glucose test strip	Annual Quantity Limits Apply. Additional strips requires Special Authority. Clients are encouraged to attend an education program at a Diabetes Education Centre however, this is not mandatory at this time.	Note: Clients accessing these strips for the first time can contact the FNHA Health Benefits at: 1-855-550-5454 to activate coverage. Pharmacists, Diabetes Educators, Nurses, Health Directors and Health Advocates can contact the FNHA Health Benefits on behalf of a client, and with client's consent to activate coverage.

REFERENCES

TOPIC	REFERENCE	CONTENT
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	Lists of PINs for insulin pumps (includes brands covered), continuous and flash glucose monitors , needles/syringes (insulin use) and Blood Glucose Test Strips.
BC PharmaCare Coverage of Insulin pumps	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/what-we-cover/medical-supplies-coverage/diabetes-supplies/insulin-pumps-insulin-pump-supplies	Eligibility requirements and procedure for insulin pump coverage; kinds of pump covered; PharmaCare-approved vendors in British Columbia (BC).
Insulin pump supplies	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/diabetes-product-identification-numbers-pins/insulin-pump-supplies	Lists of PINs for insulin pumps (includes brands covered), continuous and flash glucose monitors , needles/syringes (insulin use) and Blood Glucose Test Strips.
BC PharmaCare Coverage Limits for Blood Glucose Test Strips – Test With Purpose	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare/bgts.pdf	Annual quantity limit for blood glucose test strips; links to resources with information on the recommended frequency of blood glucose testing
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	List of PINs for Diabetic supplies such as ketone strips, lancets, alcohol swabs etc.
PBC Pharmacy Fee Supplement for FNHA Clients	https://www.pac.bluecross.ca/pdf-bin/FNHA/0799.010_FNHA-PHARMACY-FeeSupplement.pdf	PBC PINs for sharps container.
Diabetes Canada: Diabetes and You	www.diabetes.ca/diabetes-and-you	Resources for individuals to support their role in diabetes management.
Diabetes Canada: Clinical Practice & Education	www.diabetes.ca/clinical-practice-education	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 or Yukon Territory) will access coverage for all diabetes drugs, insulins and supplies through Pacific Blue Cross.