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Programmes provinciaux de medicaments
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PEI Pharmacare Bulletin

Issue (2024 - 08) **May 21, 2024**

NEW PRODUCT(S) ADDED TO THE PEI PHARMACARE FORMULARY (EFFECTIVE DATE: JUNE 4, 2024)

Product (Generic name)	Product (Brand name)	Strength	Dosage Form	DIN	MFR
Apalutamide	**Erleada**	**240 mg**	**Tablet**	**02540185**	**JAN**
Criteria	See online Formulary for apalutamide criteria				
Program Eligibility	Financial Assistance Drug Program, High Cost Drug Program, Nursing Home Drug Program, Catastrophic Drug Program				
Buprenorphine/Naloxone	**Suboxone**	**2 mg/0.5 mg** **4 mg/1 mg** **8 mg/2 mg** **12 mg/3 mg**	**Film** **Film** **Film** **Film**	**02502313** **02502321** **02502348** **02502356**	**ICL**
Criteria	Open benefit				
Program Eligibility	Substance Use Harm Reduction Drug Program, Family Health Benefit Drug Program, Financial Assistance Drug Program, Catastrophic Drug Program, Nursing Home Drug Program, Seniors Drug Program				

PEI BIOSIMILAR INITIATIVE REMINDERS

The ongoing PEI Biosimilar Initiative requires patients who have coverage for any of the following originator drugs through PEI Pharmacare to switch to a biosimilar version before the end of the switching period for that drug to maintain coverage.

For patients prescribed Humalog®, Lantus® and NovoRapid® - the switching period ends *June 30, 2024*.

- **During the switching period**, pharmacies will be reimbursed for a biosimilar insulin therapeutic substitution by a pharmacist. Details about the fee can be found under the "Biosimilars" section on the HPEI Staff Resource Centre -Resources for Pharmacists page

- Some patients may require continued access to an originator insulin because their insulin pump has not yet been approved for use with the biosimilar version of their insulin. Coverage of the originator insulin will be extended beyond the end of the switching period (June 30, 2024) if compatibility has not yet been confirmed.
- The online or paper version of the Biosimilar Switching Exemption form must be completed by the patient or *any* health care provider (including pharmacists) to identify those patients who require continued access to NovoRapid for their insulin pump.
- Insulin pump and biosimilar insulin compatibility information was previously shared in a PEI Pharmacare Memo which can be found under the "Biosimilars" section on the HPEI Staff Resource Centre -Resources for Pharmacists page
- Links to patient information on biosimilar insulins:
    - Biosimilar Patient Information - Admelog
    - Biosimilar Patient Information - Basaglar and Semglee
    - Biosimilar Patient Information - Trurapi and Kirsty

For patients prescribed Copaxone®, Enbrel®, Humira®, Remicade® and Rituxan® - the switching period ends *September 30, 2024*.

- No special authorization renewal requests for originator biologics will be considered during the switching phase unless the patient has an approved exemption.
- For patients who do not have a scheduled appointment with their prescriber before their special authorization needs to be renewed, the patient or a health care provider may complete the online or paper switching exemption form. If the patient's appointment is scheduled before September 30, 2024, the special authorization coverage for the originator biologic may be extended for 1 month following your appointment date.

For further information about the PEI Biosimilar Initiative, please refer to:

- PEI Biosimilar Initiative webpage
- HPEI Staff Resource Centre Biosimilar Initiative Information for Health Care Providers
- Email: pei-biosimilar-initiative@gov.pe.ca
- Call: 902-218-4653

SEMAGLUTIDE UPDATE

PEI Pharmacare has implemented a drug-specific special authorization form for Semaglutide (subcutaneous and oral). Any requests for coverage of Semaglutide must be made using the Semaglutide Special Authorization Request Form which can be accessed online at https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/pharmacareforms.