

Low Molecular Weight Heparin (LMWH) coverage for VTE

BC Cancer does not fund supportive medications such as LMWHs for venous thromboembolism for outpatients.

Coverage of LMWH for cancer patients is available through BC PharmaCare benefit plans and [Special Authority \(SA\)](#) requests. For funding information, refer to the [Limited Coverage Drug](#) web pages for [dalteparin](#), [enoxaparin](#) and [tinzaparin](#) which link to the following:

- [Dalteparin/Tinzaparin/Enoxaparin \(Biosimilar\) for Treatment of Venous Thromboembolism in Cancer Patients Special Authority Request Form](#)
- [Dalteparin/Enoxaparin \(Biosimilar\)/Nadroparin/Tinzaparin Low Molecular Weight Heparin Special Authority Request Form](#) (dalteparin and biosimilar enoxaparin only for the prophylaxis of VTE after surgery for the management of a malignant tumour)

To optimize PharmaCare patient coverage ensure:

1) Patient is registered with Fair PharmaCare and understands their level of coverage

The [Fair PharmaCare plan](#) web page provides information which includes: registering online, ensuring eligibility (MSP coverage is required), checking enrollment, updating income and requesting the monthly deductible payment option.

The patient will pay 100% of the cost of the prescription until they reach their family deductible as set by Fair PharmaCare, based on family income. After reaching the deductible, PharmaCare will pay for 70% of the costs (75% for certain age groups) until the family maximum has been reached, and then 100% of costs thereafter.

Note: the Fair PharmaCare deductible is based on income from **two years prior**, not medication cost, and is assessed annually. If family income has dropped by 10% or more during the past two years, patients can request an income review to have their

deductible lowered. This option is particularly important when new, high cost medications are prescribed prior to the next income review date.

Another option to help alleviate immediate costs is the monthly deductible payment option for those patients who do not have private health insurance with a drug benefit plan. The web page [Get help paying your Fair PharmaCare deductible](#) outlines how to apply for both of these services.

For more information on a patient's deductible, Health Insurance BC can be contacted at 1-800-663-7100 or 604-683-7151.

2) Special Authority (SA) form has been completed and approved

Electronic SA forms (eForms) are also available and their use is encouraged.

There are many benefits to electronic form submissions including shorter approval time, confirmation that request has been received and patient access to requests through Health Gateway. Pharmacists are able to request SA Coverage electronically when working in a clinical setting in collaboration with a prescriber. BC Cancer staff can email eFormsEnrolment@phsa.ca for authorization to access the [eForms](#).

The number for the Health Insurance of BC Pharmacy and Doctor PharmaCare/PharmaNet Help Desk is 1-800-554-0225.

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References:

1. Government of British Columbia [Internet]. Victoria BC: Government of British Columbia; 2022. Special Authority; [updated 2023 Jan 6;cited 2023 Feb 15]; Available from: <https://alpha.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/prescribers/special-authority>
2. Government of British Columbia [Internet]. Victoria BC: Government of British Columbia; 2022. Fair PharmaCare Plan; [updated 2023 Feb 2;cited 2023 Feb 15]. Available from: <https://alpha.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/who-we-cover/fair-pharmacare-plan?keyword=fair&keyword=pharmacare>