

Bulletin #737

November 26, 2008

## BENEFIT CHANGES TO NBPDP

This update to the New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program (NBPDP) Formulary is effective November 26, 2008.

**Included in this bulletin:**

- **Regular Benefit Additions**
- **Special Authorization Additions and Revised Criteria**
- **Drugs Reviewed and Not Listed**

To subscribe or unsubscribe from the Bulletin e-mail notification list, please send a message to [BC\\_nbpdp@medavie.bluecross.ca](mailto:BC_nbpdp@medavie.bluecross.ca) or call 1-800-332-3691. Bulletins are also available on the NBPDP web page: [www.gnb.ca/0051/0212/index-e.asp](http://www.gnb.ca/0051/0212/index-e.asp)

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 1-800-332-3691.

Yours truly,



Debbie LeBlanc  
New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program

## REGULAR BENEFIT ADDITIONS

Drug/Form/Route/Strength	Brand Name	DIN	Manufacturer	Plans	\$
Darbepoetin Liq Inj 130mcg	Aranesp®	2246358	AGA	W	AAC

## SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION ADDITIONS

**Acamprosate calcium**  
(*Campra*®)  
333mg tablets

For the maintenance of abstinence from alcohol in patients with alcohol dependence who have been abstinent for at least four days, and who have contraindications to naltrexone (e.g. currently receiving opioids, acute hepatitis or liver failure). Treatment with acamprosate should be part of a comprehensive management plan that includes counseling.

**Emtricitabine /  
tenofovir disoproxil  
fumarate / efavirenz**  
(*Atripla*™)  
200/300/600mg tablets

For the treatment of HIV-1 infection in patients (Plan U beneficiaries) where the combination of tenofovir, emtricitabine and efavirenz is indicated, and:

- Atripla™ is used to replace existing therapy with its component drugs, or
- the patient is treatment naive, or
- the patient has established viral suppression but requires antiretroviral therapy modification due to intolerance or adverse effects.

**Lansoprazole**  
(*Prevacid FasTab*®)  
15mg tablets

For patients who meet the special authorization criteria for a proton pump inhibitor and require administration through a feeding tube.

**Raltegravir**  
(*Isentress*™)  
400mg tablets

For the treatment of HIV infection in patients (Plan U beneficiaries) who are antiretroviral experienced and have virologic failure due to resistance to at least one agent from each of the three major classes of antiretrovirals (i.e. nucleoside/tide reverse transcriptase inhibitors, non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors and protease inhibitors.)

## SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION – REVISED CRITERIA

### Alendronate

(Fosamax® and generics)  
10mg and 70mg tablets

- For the treatment of osteoporosis:
  - with documented fragility fracture or;
  - without documented fractures in patients at high 10-year fracture risk (see fracture risk tables).
- For prophylaxis of corticosteroid induced osteoporosis in patients who will be or have been on systemic corticosteroid therapy for  $\geq 3$  months.

### Risedronate

(Actonel®)  
5mg and 35mg tablets

Women			
Age (years)	10-YEAR RISK		
	Low Risk < 10%	Moderate Risk 10% - 20%	High Risk > 20%
	LOWEST T-SCORE Lumbar spine, total hip, femoral neck, trochanter		
50	> - 2.3	- 2.3 to - 3.9	< - 3.9
55	> - 1.9	- 1.9 to - 3.4	< - 3.4
60	> - 1.4	- 1.4 to - 3.0	< - 3.0
65	> - 1.0	- 1.0 to - 2.6	< - 2.6
70	> - 0.8	- 0.8 to - 2.2	< - 2.2
75	> - 0.7	- 0.7 to - 2.1	< - 2.1
80	> - 0.6	- 0.6 to - 2.0	< - 2.0
85	> - 0.7	- 0.7 to - 2.2	< - 2.2

Men			
Age (years)	10-YEAR RISK		
	Low Risk < 10%	Moderate Risk 10% - 20%	High Risk > 20%
	LOWEST T-SCORE Lumbar spine, total hip, femoral neck, trochanter		
50	>-3.4	<=-3.4	---
55	>-3.1	<=-3.1	---
60	>-3.0	<=-3.0	---
65	>-2.7	<=-2.7	---
70	>-2.1	-2.1 to -3.9	<-3.9
75	>-1.5	-1.5 to -3.2	<-3.2
80	>-1.2	-1.2 to -3.0	<-3.0
85	>-1.3	-1.3 to -3.3	<-3.3

Ref: Can Assoc Radiol J, 2005; 56(3): 178-88

### Calcitonin salmon

(Miacalcin®)  
200 IU nasal spray

- For the treatment of osteoporosis
  - with documented fragility fracture when alendronate, risedronate and raloxifene are not tolerated or contraindicated or;
  - without documented fractures in patients at high 10-year fracture risk (see fracture risk tables) and alendronate, risedronate and raloxifene are not tolerated or contraindicated.
- For the short term (up to 3 months) treatment of pain associated with osteoporotic fragility fractures, bone metastases or pathological fractures.

### Raloxifene

(Evista®)  
60mg tablets

- For the treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis
- with documented fragility fracture when bisphosphonates are not tolerated or contraindicated or
  - without documented fractures in patients at high 10-year fracture risk (see fracture risk tables) when bisphosphonates are not tolerated or contraindicated.

## DRUGS REVIEWED AND NOT LISTED

The reviews of the following products found they did not offer a therapeutic and/or cost advantage over existing therapies. Requests for coverage through special authorization will not be considered.

<b>Fenofibrate nanocrystals - resubmission</b>	<i>(Lipidil EZ<sup>®</sup>)</i>	48mg and 145mg tablets
<b>Paliperidone</b>	<i>(Invega<sup>™</sup>)</i>	3mg, 6mg and 9mg extended release tablets
<b>Tramadol hydrochloride</b>	<i>(Tridural<sup>™</sup>)</i>	100mg, 200mg and 300mg tablets