

PharmacareNEWS

inside

Nova Scotia Formulary Updates

New Exception Status Benefits

- Abrilada (adalimumab)
- Simlandi (adalimumab)
- Duobrii (halobetasol propionate and tazarotene)

Criteria Update

- Ofev (nintedanib)

Budesonide for Patients with Non-severe COVID-19 Respiratory Symptoms

Nova Scotia Formulary Updates

New Exception Status Benefits

The following new products have been listed with the following criteria, effective **immediately**.

PRODUCT	STRENGTH	DIN	PRESCRIBER	BENEFIT STATUS	MFR
Abrilada (adalimumab)	40mg/0.8mL Prefilled Pen	02511045	DNP	E (SF)	PFI
	40mg/0.8mL Prefilled Syringe	02511053	DNP	E (SF)	PFI
Simlandi (adalimumab)	40mg/0.4mL Autoinjector	02523957	DNP	E (SF)	JPC
	40mg/0.4mL Prefilled Syringe	02523949	DNP	E (SF)	JPC
	80mg/0.8mL Prefilled Syringe	02523965	DNP	E (SF)	JPC
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please refer to the Pharmacare Formulary (https://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/formulary.asp) for the adalimumab criteria. 				

PRODUCT	STRENGTH	DIN	PRESCRIBER	BENEFIT STATUS	MFR
Duobrii (halobetasol propionate and tazarotene)	0.01%/0.045% Topical Lotion	02499967	DNP	E (SF)	BSL
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patients must have a clinical diagnosis of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis and an inadequate response to a topical high-potency corticosteroid. 				

Criteria Update

The following indication has been added to existing criteria **effective immediately**.

PRODUCT	STRENGTH	DIN	PRESCRIBER	BENEFIT STATUS	MFR
Ofev (nintedanib)	100mg Capsule	02443066	DNP	E (SF)	BOE
	150mg Capsule	02443074	DNP	E (SF)	BOE
Criteria	<p>Chronic Fibrosing Interstitial Lung Disease</p> <p>Initiation criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the treatment of chronic fibrosing interstitial lung disease with a progressive phenotype confirmed by a specialist in interstitial lung diseases, if the following criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the patient has a forced vital capacity greater than or equal to 45% of predicted. <p>Renewal criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The patient must not experience a more severe progression of disease, defined as an absolute decline in percent predicted forced vital capacity of 10% or greater over the preceding year of treatment with nintedanib. <p>Clinical Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The patient's clinical status should be evaluated every 12 months. <p>Claim Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The patient is under the care of a physician with experience in interstitial lung diseases. Concurrent treatment of nintedanib with pirfenidone should not be reimbursed. Approval Period: 12 months 				

Budesonide for Patients with Non-severe COVID-19 Respiratory Symptoms

As per the [NS Health COVID-19 medication recommendations](#), the use of inhaled budesonide (800 mg BID) can be assessed on a case-by-case basis for individuals with mild respiratory symptoms of COVID-19 (do not require: new or additional supplemental oxygen, intravenous fluids, or physiological support) within 14 days of symptom onset. The full [prescribing protocol](#) can be accessed online through the links provided herein.

Pulmicort Turbuhaler is available as a full benefit for beneficiaries of the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs. In addition, pharmacists are able to assess and prescribe this therapy for COVID-19 patients, as per the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists' *Standards of Practice: Prescribing Drugs* (Appendix G – Prescribing for a Diagnosis Supported by a Protocol, SARS-CoV-2).

Resources:

NS Health COVID-19 medication recommendations:

http://policy.nshealth.ca/Site_Published/covid19/document_render.aspx?documentRender.IdType=6&documentRender.GenericField=&documentRender.Id=85287

Prescribing protocol:

https://pans.ns.ca/sites/default/files/inhaled_budesonide_prescribing_protocol_package_document_may_2_fillable.pdf

Legend

PRESCRIBER CODES	BENEFIT STATUS	MANUFACTURER CODES
D - Physician / Dentist	S - Seniors' Pharmacare	BOE - Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd.
N - Nurse Practitioner	F - Community Services Pharmacare	BSL - Bausch Health, Canada Inc.
P - Pharmacist	- Family Pharmacare	JPC - Jamp Pharma Corporation
M - Midwife	C - Drug Assistance for Cancer Patients	PFI - Pfizer Canada Inc.
O - Optometrist	D - Diabetes Assistance Program	
	E - Exception status applies	