

## Access and coverage of antiretroviral drugs through Canada's provincial and territorial drug programs

Drug	Dose	Form	Provinces/Territory												
			Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland & Labrador	Northwest Territories	Nova Scotia	Nunavut	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Yukon
<b>Single Tablet Regimens</b>															
efavirenz/emtricitabine/tenofovir (Atripla)	600mg/ 200mg/ 300mg	tab	•	•	EDS	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
rilpivirine/emtricitabine/tenofovir (Complera)	25mg/ 200mg/ 300mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
elvitegravir/cobicistat/emtricitabine/tenofovir alafenamide fumarate (Genvoya)	150mg/ 150mg/ 200mg/ 10mg	tab						EDS		EDS					EDS
elvitegravir/cobicistat/emtricitabine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate (Stribild)	150mg/ 150mg/ 200mg/ 300mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	SA	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
dolutegravir/lamivudine/abacavir (Triumeq)	50mg/ 300mg/ 600mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	•	SA	EDS	•	EDS	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
<b>Nucleoside/tide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors</b>															
abacavir (generic)	300mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
abacavir (Ziagen)	300mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•
abacavir liquid	20mg/mL	sol	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	R	•	EDS	•
abacavir/lamivudine (generic)	600mg/ 300mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•				•		EDS	•
abacavir/lamivudine (Kivexa)	600mg/ 300mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**	•	•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•
abacavir/lamivudine/zidovudine (generic)	300mg/ 150mg/ 300mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
abacavir/lamivudine/zidovudine (Trizivir)	300mg/ 150mg/ 300mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•
didanosine EC	125mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
didanosine EC	200mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
didanosine EC	250mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
didanosine EC	400mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
didanosine powder for oral suspension	4g	pwd	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP
emtricitabine/tenofovir AF (Descovy)	200mg/ 10mg	Tab						EDS		EDS					EDS
emtricitabine/tenofovir AF (Descovy)	200mg/ 25mg	tab						EDS		EDS					EDS
emtricitabine/tenofovir DF (Truvada)	200mg/ 300mg	tab	•	•	EDS	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	••	EDS	EDS
lamivudine (generic)	150mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
lamivudine (generic)	300mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
lamivudine (3TC)	150mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•
lamivudine (3TC)	300mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•
lamivudine liquid	10mg/ml	sol	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	R	•	EDS	•

Drug	Dose	Form	Provinces/Territory													
			Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland & Labrador	Northwest Territories	Nova Scotia	Nunavut	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Yukon	
lamivudine/zidovudine (generic)	150mg/300mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
lamivudine/zidovudine (Combivir)	150mg/300mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•	
stavudine	15mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
stavudine	20mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
stavudine	30mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
stavudine	40mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
stavudine liquid	1mg/mL	sol	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	
tenofovir DF	300mg	tab	•	•	EDS	SA	SA	LUB	•	LUB	•	•	•	EDS	EDS	
zidovudine (generic)	100mg	cap	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	EDS	•	
zidovudine (Retrovir)	100mg	cap	•	•	•**	•	NFDR	•		•	ODDMP	•	•**	EDS	•	
zidovudine liquid	10mg/mL	syr	•	•	•	•	NFDR	•	•	•	ODDMP	R	•	EDS	•	
Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors																
delavirdine	100mg	tab	•	•	•	SA	•		•		•		•	EDS	•	
efavirenz	50mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
efavirenz	200mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
efavirenz (generic)	600mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
efavirenz (Sustiva)	600mg	tab	•**	•**	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•	
efavirenz liquid	30mg/mL	sol	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	
etravirine	100mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	SA	•	LUB	•	LUB	•	•	MDE	EDS	EDS	
etravirine	200mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	SA	•	LUB	•	LUB	•	•	MDE	EDS	EDS	
nevirapine (generic)	200mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
nevirapine (Viramune)	200mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	•	
nevirapine XR (generic)	400mg	tab	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
nevirapine XR (Viramune XR)	400mg	tab	•**	•	•**	•	•**	•**		•**	•**	•	•**	EDS	EDS	
nevirapine liquid	50mg/mL	susp	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	SAP	
rilpivirine	25mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS	
Protease Inhibitors																
atazanavir	150mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
atazanavir	200mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
atazanavir	300mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
atazanavir/cobicistat (Evotaz)	300mg/150mg	tab													EDS	
darunavir	75mg	tab	•	ALT	•	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS	
darunavir	150mg	tab	•	ALT	•	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS	
darunavir	600mg	tab	•	ALT	•	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	MDE	EDS	EDS	
darunavir	800mg	tab	•	ALT	•	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS	
darunavir liquid	100mg/mL	susp	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	
darunavir/cobicistat (Prezcobix)	800mg/150mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	•		•		•	•	•		EDS	EDS	
fosamprenavir	700mg	tab	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS	
fosamprenavir liquid	50mg/mL	susp	•	•	EDS	•	NFDR	•	•	•	•	R	•	EDS	EDS	
indinavir	400mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
lopinavir/ritonavir	100mg/25mg	tab	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	R	•	EDS	EDS	
lopinavir/ritonavir	200mg/50mg	tab	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•	
lopinavir/ritonavir liquid	80mg/20mg/mL	sol	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	R	•	EDS	EDS	

Drug	Dose	Form	Provinces/Territory													
			Alberta	British Columbia	Manitoba	New Brunswick	Newfoundland & Labrador	Northwest Territories	Nova Scotia	Nunavut	Ontario	Prince Edward Island	Quebec	Saskatchewan	Yukon	
nelfinavir	250mg	tab	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
nelfinavir	625mg	tab	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
ritonavir	100mg	tab	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
ritonavir liquid	80mg/mL	sol	•	•	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	R	•	•	EDS	•
saquinavir	200mg	cap	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	•
saquinavir	500mg	tab	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
tipranavir	250mg	cap	•	ALT	EDS	SA	SA	LUB	•	LUB	EAP	SA	MDE	EDS	EDS	
<b>Integrase inhibitors</b>																
dolutegravir	50mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	•	SA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
raltegravir	25mg	tab	•	ALT	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
raltegravir	100mg	tab	•	ALT	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
raltegravir	400mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	•	•	LUB	•	LUB	•	•	•	•	EDS	EDS
<b>CCR5 antagonists</b>																
maraviroc	150mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	SA	SA	LUB	•	LUB	•	•	MDE	EDS	EDS	
maraviroc	300mg	tab	•	ALT	EDS	SA	SA	LUB	•	LUB	•	•	MDE	EDS	EDS	
<b>Fusion inhibitors</b>																
enfuvirtide	108mg/vial	inj	•	ALT	EDS	SA	NFDR	EDS	•	EDS	EAP	SA	MDE	EDS	EDS	

**Legend**

•	Open access coverage for those enrolled in the provincial/territorial drug program
•*	Open access for treatment-experienced only; need authorization for coverage for a naïve patient
•**	For most jurisdictions, name brand product is covered if specified on the prescription "do not substitute" (often accompanied by Adverse Drug Reaction submission to Health Canada) If not, province does not provide the product (BC) or the patient pays the difference in cost. In Manitoba, patient pays the difference in cost from the generic brand regardless if "no substitute" written
C	Provided by the manufacturer through compassionate supply
EAP	Exceptional Access Program (of the Ontario Drug Program); written requests are sent for approval to ensure reimbursement criteria are met
EDS	Exception Drug Status In Manitoba, requests for approval can be requested by phone, fax, or mail except enfuvirtide, fosamprenavir liquid, and tipranavir which require a written request to be submitted. In Saskatchewan, requests for all ARVs can be submitted by phone, fax, or mail by a prescribing physician or pharmacist (except designated ID physicians who have pre-approval status) In the Yukon, a written application must be submitted for a drug that has exception drug status. To provide coverage while the application is being reviewed, a pharmacist may obtain a 30d approval by telephone.
ALT	Alternate Therapy; certain criteria apply, contact St. Paul's ambulatory pharmacy for further information
LUB	Limited Use Benefit (of the NIHB program); prior approval is required to ensure criteria are met for coverage
MDE	Médicament d'exception form required; need to meet criteria for coverage (If does not meet criteria, a "patient d'exception" request can be made)
NFDR	Non-funded Drug Request; letter can be written to the Medical Director of the program for special consideration
ODDMP	Ontario Drug Distribution and Monitoring Program; patient is enrolled in the program and drug is provided free of charge
PAR	Pre-authorization required- "ICD-10 B24" code or HIV diagnosis must be written on the prescription to be approved for coverage
PARALT	Pre-authorization required, alternative to 1 <sup>st</sup> line treatment- "ICD-10 B24" code or HIV diagnosis must be written on the prescription to be approved for coverage, justification to use 2 <sup>nd</sup> line treatment required (contra-indication to 1 <sup>st</sup> line regimen, comorbid condition, adverse drug effect, drug interaction, pregnancy, drug resistance, patient adherence)
PDE	Patient d'exception; request for special consideration of coverage including those who do not meet the médicament d'exception criteria (request may be refused)
R	Request to provincial program for coverage will be automatically be authorized
SA	Special Authorization required; in NFLD, approval can be requested by fax, phone or email
SAP	Specialized Access Program; letter of request must be sent to Health Canada ( <a href="http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/acces/drugs-droques/index-eng.php">http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/acces/drugs-droques/index-eng.php</a> ) to obtain access to drug not marketed in Canada

Jan 2017: Prepared by: Deborah Yoong, BScPhm, PharmD., St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, ON, with review of current version by:

Alberta: Jeff Kapler, British Columbia: Linda Akagi, Saskatchewan: Mike Stuber, Manitoba: Shanna Chan, Ontario: Deborah Yoong, Quebec: Nancy Sheehan, New Brunswick: Jodi Symes, Nova Scotia: Tasha Ramsey, PEI: Bonnie Corish, Newfoundland and Labrador: Deborah Kelly, Yukon: Josianne Gauthier, Northwest Territories: Larry Ring, First Nations: Shanna Chan

The federal, provincial, and territorial governments of Canada are responsible for the administration of their own publicly-funded out-patient prescription drug benefit program. Each offers varying levels of coverage, with different eligibility criteria, enrolment processes, deductibles and/or co-pays. Each province/territory recognizes the high costs of antiretroviral therapy and has an associated program to provide various levels of insurance for patients with HIV; however, each province/territory makes decisions on how the antiretroviral is listed on their formulary (eg. open access, pre-defined criteria). Many programs will follow recommendations made by The Common Drug Review at the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health. Their review and recommendation can be found at <http://www.cadth.ca/en/products/cdr>

Canadian residents moving from one province/territory to another whose health coverage is not covered by a federal program continue to be covered by their "home" province/territory for a maximum period of 3 months. **Upon moving, an individual should be advised to immediately apply for health coverage in the new province/territory and start the process of obtaining drug coverage if an application is required.** Certain provinces have a provincial HIV program with a central intake centre to assist with expediting the application process, or consider contacting the listed pharmacist from the respective province to help with the medication coverage transition (see respective province for phone #). After maximum waiting period of 3 months, the new province/territory assumes the health coverage and it is hoped the drug coverage will also have been approved in this time-period. **Patients should be advised to obtain a 3 month supply of their medications from their "home" province/territory to bridge this gap and minimize the risk of an interruption to their therapy.**

The federal programs are portable across the country. The various federal programs (<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hcs-sss/pharma/acces/fedprog-eng.php>) provide drug coverage to various groups such as First Nations and Inuit, members of the military and RCMP, and refugee claimants. Such programs include:

#### **Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Program**

The NIHB program provides coverage for drugs listed on the "Drug Benefit List" (<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/provide-fourmir/pharma-prod/med-list/index-eng.php>) for eligible First Nations people and Inuit. A summary of the antiretrovirals covered by the NIHB program can be found under the Northwest Territories or Nunavut heading as both territories use this formulary.

#### **Interim Federal Health (IFH) program**

The IFH program provides limited temporary health insurance to protected persons, including resettled refugees, and refugee claimants in Canada through three basic types of coverage (<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/refugees/outside/arriving-healthcare.asp>). Coverage for antiretrovirals mirrors what the provincial formulary provides (<https://provider.medavie.bluecross.ca/welcome>).

#### **Canadian Forces Health Services (CFHS)**

The CFHS is the designated health care provider for Canada's military personnel. There is no formulary list of all drugs covered; however, most medications are covered and can be filled at the pharmacy on base without any costs. If filled at an outside pharmacy that is not registered with the CFHS, the patient pays upfront and is then reimbursed the cost.

#### **Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC)**

The VAC provides both disability pensions and health treatment benefits (through VACs 14 Programs of Choice) for both the Royal Canadian Mounted Police members and Canadian Veterans. The VAC will consider coverage of medications only after the provincial/territorial program is accessed first.

Province	Process to get ARV coverage	Restrictions on prescriber	Restrictions on pharmacy dispensing ARVs
Alberta	<p>All eligible residents of Alberta must register with the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan (AHCIP)</p> <p>ARVs are 100% covered by the Specialized High Cost program of the AHCIP (see chart for exceptions), no deductibles or co-payments regardless of age or income.</p> <p><a href="http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-care-insurance-plan.html">http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-care-insurance-plan.html</a></p> <p>For more information: Pam Nickel (Northern Alberta): 780-407-8550 Jeff Kapler (Southern Alberta): 403-955-6397</p>	<p><b>Northern Alberta</b> -Infectious disease MD with HIV specialty practice -HIV pharmacists with prescribing authorization -HIV nurse practitioner</p> <p><b>Southern Alberta</b> -MDs and pharmacists practicing at the Southern Alberta Clinic (SAC) -MDs in hospital may prescribe in consultation with the specialists at SAC</p>	<p><b>Northern Alberta</b> -Rexall outpatient pharmacies at the University of Alberta and Royal Alexandra hospitals</p> <p><b>Southern Alberta</b> -SAC has a dispensing pharmacy on-site</p> <p>-medications are shipped across the province as needed</p>
British Columbia	<p>A BC resident with active BC Personal Health Number or Interim Federal Health coverage and documented HIV infection are eligible for enrolment in the BC Centre for Excellence (BC-CfE) HIV Drug Treatment Program</p> <p>ARVs are 100% covered by provincial program (see chart for exceptions), no deductibles or co-payments regardless of age or income.</p> <p>If covered by the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) for First Nations and Inuit, client can "opt-out" of provincial plan (nb. Most will use the provincial program and not NIHB)</p> <p>If private insurance covers an ARV not covered by province, patient can be part of both programs and can fill drug at outside pharmacy. Otherwise, most private insurance will not pick up the costs of any ARV that can be filled by the province.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cfenet.ubc.ca/healthcare-providers">http://www.cfenet.ubc.ca/healthcare-providers</a></p> <p>For more information: Linda Akagi: 604-806-9096</p>	<p>No restriction on prescriber but prescriptions require pre-authorization through the BC-CfE Drug Treatment program</p>	<p><b>Coquitlam</b> Product Distribution Centre (nb. Incarcerated in a provincial facility)</p> <p><b>Kelowna</b> Lakeside Medicine Centre</p> <p><b>Nanaimo</b> Nanaimo Regional General Hospital pharmacy</p> <p><b>Vancouver</b> St. Paul's Hospital – ambulatory pharmacy BC Children/Womens Hospital – ambulatory pharmacy Downtown Community Health Clinic pharmacy</p> <p><b>Victoria</b> Royal Jubilee Hospital</p> <p>Any community pharmacy for those using NIHB coverage</p>
Manitoba	<p>Manitoba residents without 100% private insurance (or other provincial or federal coverage) who have Manitoba Health coverage can obtain provincial coverage of ARVs by enrolling into the Pharmacare program, a family plan that includes dependents for children &lt;18 years of age. A one page application needs to be submitted.</p> <p>There is an annual deductible based on the adjusted family income and is calculated as a percentage (range: 2.97-6.73%) of the combined family income (derived from line 150 from Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment); minimum deductible is \$100. Patients pay towards the cost of the medication (including dispensing fee) and once the deductible amount has been paid, the government pays 100% of the cost of the meds (including dispensing fee) for the remainder of the Pharmacare year (April 1 – March 31).</p> <p>A separate application can be made to divide the annual deductible into monthly installments. For individuals that have partial private insurance, the provincial plan is used first, then the insurance coverage is applied to the deductible.</p> <p>For Manitoba residents who are on social assistance/family services, meds that are listed on the provincial formulary are paid for 100% by the government, with no co-pay.</p> <p><a href="http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/index.html">http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare/index.html</a></p> <p>Central intake/referral line for the Manitoba HIV program: 1-866-499-0165</p>	<p>No restrictions on prescriber</p>	<p>Any pharmacy can dispense ARVs</p>

Province	Process to get ARV coverage	Restrictions on prescriber	Restrictions on pharmacy dispensing ARVs
	<p>For more information: Shanna Chan: 204-787-4005</p>		
New Brunswick	<p>Residents of New Brunswick with New Brunswick Medicare with HIV <u>AND</u> have no private coverage, are eligible to be registered to the "Prescription Drug Program – HIV/AIDS" (Plan U) by their physician.</p> <p>Patients are required to pay 20% of the costs for each prescription up to a maximum of \$20 (maximum co-pay of \$500 per family unit in one fiscal year) If patients have a health card for prescription drugs through the department of social services, the co-pay is \$4 per prescription for adults and \$2 for children (maximum co-pay of \$250 per family unit in one fiscal year)</p> <p>If the patient has only partial private insurance (eg. 80%), they are not eligible for Plan U and the remaining co-payments are not assisted by the province</p> <p><a href="http://www.qnb.ca/0212/NBPDPFormulary-e.asp">http://www.qnb.ca/0212/NBPDPFormulary-e.asp</a></p> <p>For more information: Jodi Symes: 506-648-7984</p>	The prescriber must be an infectious disease specialist or medical microbiologist.	All provincially covered ARVs must be filled at:  Meditrust Pharmacy Services Saint John, NB 506-674-4444
Newfoundland & Labrador	<p>There are 4 plans under the Newfoundland and Labrador Prescription Drug Program (NLPDP) that a patient may qualify for to cover ARVs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Foundation Plan – for clients who qualify for income support benefits; 100% coverage</li> <li>- Access Plan – for clients with low family incomes; co-pay based on income and drug costs, and is a percentage of prescription costs.</li> <li>- Assurance Plan – for clients with very high costs; co-pay based on income and drug costs, and is a percentage of prescription costs.</li> <li>- 65Plus Plan – covers medications costs only; clients must pay the associated professional fees</li> </ul> <p>Those with private insurance with a high associated co-pay, can apply for an NLPDP card but insurance must be used first. The provincial plan is <u>always</u> the payer of last resort.</p> <p><a href="http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/prescription/covered.html">http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/prescription/covered.html</a></p> <p>For more information: Deborah Kelly: 709-777-7903</p>	No restriction on prescriber	Any pharmacy can dispense ARVs (Currently the NLPDP needs to be informed to allow a community pharmacy to electronically bill the program)
Northwest Territories	<p>All residents of the Northwest Territories are eligible to register for the "Government of the Northwest Territories health care plan" and obtain coverage of their ARVs through an application to the Extended Health Benefits for Specific Disease Conditions if they are non-Native or Métis or a permanent resident of the Northwest Territories.</p> <p>The prescription drug benefits are administered through Alberta Blue Cross on behalf of the government of the Northwest Territories and provides up to 100% coverage for drugs listed on the drug benefit list (the Non-Insured Health Benefits formulary). There is no deductible or co-payment regardless of age or income. Any drug not covered by the NIHB formulary can be requested through an "Exception Drug Request form" that is sent to Alberta Blue Cross.</p> <p>The Extended Health Benefits program is the payment agency of last resort. Private insurance must be accessed first.</p> <p>Those registered as First Nations or recognized Inuit can access their ARVs through the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program.</p> <p><a href="http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/provide-fournir/pharma-prod/med-list/index-eng.php">http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/provide-fournir/pharma-prod/med-list/index-eng.php</a></p> <p>For more information: Larry Ring: 867-874-6744</p>	No restrictions on prescriber	Any pharmacy can dispense

<p>Nova Scotia</p>	<p>A Nova Scotia resident with a Nova Scotia Health Card (MSI) qualifies for ARV coverage</p> <p>ARVs are covered by the Department of Health and Wellness through the Provincial High Cost Drug Program with the requirement of a fixed \$10 co-payment for a 3 month supply per drug if they do not have private insurance.</p> <p>If client has private insurance but significant co-pay, eg. 20%, the fee can be charged back to the Provincial High Cost Program.</p> <p><a href="http://www.gov.ns.ca/health/Pharmacare/formulary.asp">http://www.gov.ns.ca/health/Pharmacare/formulary.asp</a></p> <p>For more information: Tasha Ramsey: 902-473-6829</p>	<p>MD and pharmacist in HIV clinic only</p>	<p><b>For clients with private insurance:</b> Any pharmacy can order and dispense ARVs</p> <p><b>For clients without private insurance</b> ARVs are dispensed by designated hospital pharmacy eg. VG Pharmacy in Halifax (refills can be mailed to client)</p>
<p>Nunavut</p>	<p>A permanent resident of Nunavut or a person holding an employment or student visa valid for one year or more is eligible and covered under the Nunavut Health Care plan.</p> <p>Extended Health Benefit program offers coverage for those with a chronic disease and covers the full cost of ARVs listed in the NIHB formulary</p> <p>Non Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) is available to eligible Land Claim Beneficiaries and covers the full cost of ARVs listed in the NIHB formulary</p> <p><a href="http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/provide-fournir/pharma-prod/med-list/index-eng.php">http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/provide-fournir/pharma-prod/med-list/index-eng.php</a></p> <p>Claims must be made through the third party insurance program before making a claim through any government insurance program.</p>	<p>Any physician may prescribe</p>	<p>Any pharmacy can dispense</p>
<p>Ontario</p>	<p>A resident of Ontario without private insurance is eligible for the Ontario Drug Benefit program and depending on income, would qualify for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Trillium Drug Program</b></li> <li>-family drug program with a yearly deductible (~4% of household income), then \$2 per prescription</li> <li>-can be used to help with remainder of cost not covered by private insurance</li> <li>- Social Assistance</li> <li>- <b>Ontario Works (OW) program</b> – \$2 co-pay for every prescription</li> <li>- <b>Ontario Disability Support program (ODSP)</b> – \$2 co-pay for every prescription</li> <li>- <b>Assistance for Children With Severe Disabilities (ACSD)</b></li> <li>- this is in-addition to the Trillium, OW or ODSP program the child may be enrolled in</li> <li>- based on parents' income, children can receive up to \$440/month for prescription drugs</li> <li>- child must be under 18 years of age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- application forms available through Regional Offices of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>Children eligibility:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-all dependents independent of age are covered as long as they live with the parent/parents, do not pay rent, and are financially dependent on the parent(s)</li> <li>-university students who are financially dependent on their parents remain as dependents even though they may reside away at school</li> <li>-the previous year's income taxes for both parent and dependent (child) are the basis for financial evaluation</li> </ul> <p>A person enrolled in the Home Care system would also receive drug coverage through the Ontario Drug Benefit program</p> <p>All above programs require application, not automatic with Ontario health card.</p> <p>Seniors (65+) are <u>automatically</u> enrolled into the Ontario Drug Benefit program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- high-income senior - \$100 deductible, the \$6.11 co-pay per prescription</li> <li>- low-income senior – no deductible, \$2 co-pay per prescription</li> <li>-</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/drugs/odbf_ eformulary.html">http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/drugs/odbf_ eformulary.html</a></p>	<p>Prescriber must be on the Facilitated Access to HIV/AIDs drugs access list</p>	<p>Any pharmacy can dispense</p> <p>ARVs obtained through the Ontario Drug Distribution and Monitoring program (eg. AZT) must be obtained from designated hospital pharmacy (416-480-6146)</p>

	<p>For more information: Deborah Yoong: 416-864-6060 ext.6140</p>		
Prince Edward Island (PEI)	<p>To obtain coverage of antiretrovirals in PEI, the physician must submit a request for the patient to be registered in the "AIDS/HIV Program" of PEI Medicare.</p> <p>Antiretrovirals are 100% covered by the program (see chart for exceptions), with no deductibles or co-payments regardless of age or income.</p> <p><a href="http://healthpei.ca/formulary">http://healthpei.ca/formulary</a></p> <p>For more information: Melinda Currie: 902.368-5408 or Bonnie Corish 902.368-6711</p>	No restrictions on prescriber	<p>All provincially covered ARVs must be filled at: (patient pays for delivery of meds)</p> <p>The Provincial Pharmacy 16 Fitzroy Street Charlottetown, PEI 902-368-4947</p>
Quebec	<p>In Quebec, everyone must be covered by prescription drug insurance. If a patient does not have private insurance, application can be made to the public plan, Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) by phone or internet. If the patient has private insurance through their work, they are obliged to use this insurance.</p> <p>There is no costs for the following populations :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- holders of a claim slip (eg. patient receiving social assistance)</li> <li>- persons age 65 or older receiving 94-100% of guaranteed income supplement</li> <li>- children under age 18</li> <li>- adults 18-25, full time students in an educational institution recognized by the Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale, without a spouse, and living with their parents</li> </ul> <p>For persons age 65 or older receiving 1 to 93% of guaranteed income supplement, there is a deductible and co-payment charge of: \$18 + (Total cost of prescription -18) x 34% to a maximum of \$52.16/month (or \$626/year).</p> <p>For everyone else in the public plan, there is a deductible and co-payment charge of: \$18 + (Total cost of prescription -18) x 34% to a maximum of \$87.16/month (or \$1046/year).</p> <p>The maximum monthly and annual contributions are revised on June 30th of every year.</p> <p>Certain patients with partial private insurance (eg. 80%) can also enroll in the RAMQ to help with costs.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca/en/publications/citizens/legal-publications/Pages/list-medications.aspx">http://www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca/en/publications/citizens/legal-publications/Pages/list-medications.aspx</a></p> <p>For more information: 514-934-1934 ext 32191 (pharmacist at the Chronic Viral Illness Service)</p>	No restrictions on prescriber	Any pharmacy can dispense
Saskatchewan	<p>There are two systems to obtain ARV coverage in Saskatchewan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The Saskatchewan Drug Plan</b> Various programs are available to those with Saskatchewan health care that <u>require registration</u> with different co-pay. Programs are not automatic with Saskatchewan health card (except children's plan). All medications covered under SPDP must be listed on Saskatchewan Drug Plan Provincial Formulary or meet criteria for Exceptional Drug Status (EDS) to qualify for reimbursement. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Special Support</b> -co-pay is a calculated percentage based on the family's annual adjusted income. Lower co-pays are possible if the total drug costs exceed 3.4% of the adjusted family income. The lowest possible co-pay is 1% of total drug cost</li> <li>b. <b>Children &amp; Senior's Plan</b> (children ≤14yrs or seniors ≥65yrs with a net income of \$65,515 or less) -\$20 for each prescription (can apply for Special Support and pay the lower of the two programs)</li> </ol> </li> <li>c. <b>Supplementary Health (Saskatchewan Assistance Program [SAP]/Social Assistance, Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability [SAID]/Social Assistance)</b> -\$2 co-pay for each prescription or no charge depending on level of coverage and number of chronic medications</li> </ol>	<p>Prescriber must be an ID specialist, has had a discussion with a specialist, or has pre-approval status.</p> <p>Designated physician can have pre-approval status and do not need to call for ARV coverage approval</p>	Any pharmacy can order and dispense ARVs



	<p><b>2. Non-Insured Health Benefits Plan (NIHB)</b>  For patients who are treaty or status; no co-pays.  (see Northwest Territory column for ARVs covered by NIHB; however, in Saskatchewan, Truvada is available as an open benefit, not requiring prior approval unless supply requested exceeds \$1000. Additionally, in Saskatchewan, lifetime approvals are granted for limited use benefit antiretrovirals vs. approval to a specific pharmacy for duration of the prescription</p> <p>For those with partial private insurance, the third party insurance program will be billed after the provincial program.</p> <p>All ARVs listed in the chart are covered by the Saskatchewan Drug Plan but require Exceptional Drug Status (EDS) approval where certain criteria must be met. The criteria for most ARVs are "if used for the treatment of HIV under the guidance of an ID specialist".</p> <p><a href="http://formulary.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca/">http://formulary.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca/</a></p> <p>For more information:  Shannon Stone: 306-655-1783  Mike Stuber: 306-766-0717  Linda Sulz: 306-766-3544</p>		
Yukon	<p>There are 4 drug programs that a patient living in the Yukon may qualify for to cover ARVs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Chronic Disease Program</b>  - physician must apply for benefits on behalf of patient; annual deductible of \$250 (max \$500/family) which can be reduced or waived based on income and family size</li> <li><b>2. Pharmacare Program</b>  - persons at least 65 years of age and spouse aged 60 years or older; automatic enrolment with no deductible</li> <li><b>3. Children Drug and Optical Program (CDOP)</b>  - for children under 19 years of age; automatic enrolment with no deductible</li> <li><b>4. Non-Insured Health Benefits program</b>  - for registered First Nations and recognized Inuit; see Northwest Territory column for ARVs covered by NIHB</li> </ol> <p>Those who have prescription drug costs covered by private insurance must use that plan first  Many ARVs are considered case-by-case as the jurisdiction is too small to review every drug for formulary and decisions are often made after a request for a specific drug for a patient is made. Recommendations from The Common Drug Review (<a href="http://www.cadth.ca/en/products/cdr">http://www.cadth.ca/en/products/cdr</a>) are often followed.</p> <p><a href="http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/drugformulary.php">http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/drugformulary.php</a></p> <p>For more information:  Josianne Gauthier: 867-393-8981</p>	Based on recommendation by ID specialist	Any pharmacy can dispense ARVs

Summary of characteristics of public drug benefit programs in Canada for coverage of antiretrovirals

Province/ Territory	Public drug program for coverage of antiretrovirals (general population)	Deductible	Co-payment/ Co- insurance	out of pocket limit	Out of pocket limits or additional comments
Alberta	Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan, Specialized High Cost program	No	No	N/A	No out-of-pocket costs regardless of age or income
British Columbia	British Columbia Centre for Excellence HIV Drug Treatment Program	No	No	N/A	No out-of-pocket costs regardless of age or income
Manitoba	Manitoba Health, Pharmacare program	Yes (%)	No	Yes	No out-of-pocket costs for residents who receive social assistance
New Brunswick	New Brunswick Prescription Drug Program – HIV/AIDS (Plan U)	No	Yes (%)	Yes	Separate program for seniors and social assistance recipients
Newfoundland and Labrador	Newfoundland and Labrador Prescription Drug Program, Access and Assurance Plan	No	Yes (%)	No	Separate program for seniors and social assistance recipients
Northwest Territories	Government of the Northwest Territories, Extended Health Benefits for Specific Disease Conditions	No	No	N/A	No out-of-pocket costs regardless of age or income
Nova Scotia	Provincial AIDS program	No	Yes (fixed)	Yes	
Nunavut	Extended Health Benefit program	No	No	N/A	No out-of-pocket costs regardless of age or income
Ontario	Trillium Drug Program	Yes (%)	Yes (fixed)	Yes	Separate program for seniors and social assistance recipients
Prince Edward Island	AIDS/HIV Program	No	No	N/A	No out-of-pocket costs regardless of age or income
Quebec	Regie de l'assurance maladie du Quebec	Yes	Yes (%)	Yes	An annual premium (between 0\$ to 660\$) is also required of participants when filing their Québec income taxes. Monthly out-of-pocket limit may differ based on age and socio-economic status.
Saskatchewan	The Saskatchewan Drug Plan, Special Support	No	Yes (%)	Yes	Separate program for seniors and social assistance recipients
Yukon	Chronic Disease Program	Yes (fixed)	No	Yes	Separate program for seniors

Deductible – the amounts that patients must pay out-of-pocket towards their prescription over a specific period before drug costs become payable by the government. Deductible may be a fixed dollar amount (eg. CAD \$1000 per year) or a percentage of income (eg. 3% of household income)

Co-payment/co-insurance – amount shared for each prescription filled which may take the form of a fixed co-payment (eg. \$2.00 per prescription) or co-insurance (eg. 20% of the cost of each prescription)