

Insulin Pump Therapy Program Eligibility Criteria

A patient must meet both the eligibility criteria, as outlined herein, and the clinical criteria developed by Alberta Health Services (AHS) as outlined in the Insulin Pump Therapy Program – Clinical Criteria in order to participate in the Insulin Pump Therapy Program (IPTP). The eligibility and clinical criteria may be changed from time to time, and the IPTP may be changed or discontinued at any time. Enrollment as an IPTP participant does not guarantee continued coverage for an insulin pump and/or diabetic supplies. The IPTP is delivered by AHS through an authorized AHS Adult or Pediatric Insulin Pump Therapy Clinic (Clinic), with claims administration by Alberta Blue Cross (ABC) and administrative support from Alberta Health.

Definitions

- **Clinic Team:** A diabetes physician specialist with expertise in insulin pumps and diabetes healthcare professionals: a Registered Nurse, Registered Dietitian or Registered Pharmacist, more than one of which is certified in the insulin pump.
- **IPTP participant:** a patient who is enrolled in the IPTP on or after January 14, 2019.
- **Type 1 diabetes:** diabetes that is primarily a result of pancreatic beta cell destruction with consequent insulin deficiency, which is prone to ketoacidosis. This form includes cases due to an autoimmune process and those for which the etiology of beta cell destruction is unknown (1).
- **Type 3c diabetes:** diabetes due to impairment in pancreatic endocrine function related to pancreatic exocrine damage due to acute, relapsing and chronic pancreatitis (of any etiology), cystic fibrosis, hemochromatosis, pancreatic cancer, and pancreatectomy, and as well rare causes such as neonatal diabetes due to pancreatic agenesis (2).

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to be enrolled, and to continue to be enrolled, as an IPTP participant, an individual must:

- a. be a resident of Alberta who is eligible for coverage under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.
- b. be diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes or Type 3c diabetes and be under the care of a physician or nurse practitioner for the condition.
- c. meet and continue to meet the clinical criteria as set out in the Insulin Pump Therapy Program – Clinical Criteria.
- d. complete a pre-insulin pump information session.
- e. complete an insulin pump therapy (IPT) education plan.
- f. attend at least one assessment at a Clinic.

¹ Punthakee et al., (2018) *Diabetes Canada 2018 Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes in Canada: Definition, Classification and Diagnosis of Diabetes, Prediabetes and Metabolic Syndrome*. Can J Diabetes 2018;42(Suppl 1):S88-S103.

² Gudipaty et al., (2015), Pancreatogenic (Type 3c) Diabetes. Pancreapedia: Exocrine Pancreas Knowledge Base <http://www.pancreapedia.org/>. DOI:10.3998/panc.2015.35 <http://dx.doi.org/10.3998/panc.2015.35>

- g. complete a Patient Responsibility Form.
- h. have a completed an Eligibility Notification Form.
- i. have been sent a Confirmation Letter.
- j. participate in required reviews and ongoing clinical monitoring by the Clinic Team.
- k. have not been sent a Letter of Clinical Ineligibility.
- l. have not been sent a Discontinuation Letter.

Enrollment Process

- a. Patients must complete a pre-insulin pump information session arranged through a Clinic.
- b. Patients must then seek and obtain an appointment at a Clinic.
- c. Patients will be assessed by the Clinic team:
 - i. A Clinic IPT prescriber will assess whether the patient meets the clinical criteria.
 - ii. Patients will be required to participate in ongoing clinical monitoring and to complete an IPT education plan.
- d. Patients who meet all eligibility and clinical criteria must complete a Patient Responsibility Form.
- e. Upon receipt of a complete Patient Responsibility Form, the Clinic will complete an IPTP Eligibility Notification Form for the patient and fax the form to ABC.
- f. Upon receipt and confirmation of the contents of the IPTP Eligibility Notification Form, ABC will mail a Confirmation Letter to the patient and the Clinic to confirm the patient's enrollment in the IPTP. The patient will be deemed enrolled as an IPTP participant effective from the date stated in such Confirmation Letter.
- g. The Confirmation Letter will advise the IPTP participant as follows:
 - i. The products that are eligible for funding.
 - ii. Information on how to obtain an insulin pump and IPT supplies.
- h. Adult IPTP participants must participate in annual reviews as required by the Clinic. IPTP participants under the age of 18 must participate in semi-annual reviews as required by the Clinic.
- i. Patients who do not meet the clinical criteria as outlined in the Insulin Pump Therapy Program – Clinical Criteria will be sent a Letter of Clinical Ineligibility from the Clinic.
- j. An IPTP participant may be discontinued from the IPTP where it is determined, at the discretion of the Clinic team, that the patient meets one or more of the clinical criteria for discontinuation, as outlined in the Insulin Pump Therapy Program – Clinical Criteria.
 - i. The Clinic will fax a Patient Discontinuation Form to ABC to terminate IPT supply coverage for the patient. Discontinued IPT Users will be sent an AHS Patient Discontinuation Letter from the Clinic indicating that they are no longer eligible for coverage under the IPT Program, effective from the date specified in the Discontinuation Letter.

IPTP participants enrolled prior to January 15, 2019

- a. Notwithstanding section 2, IPTP participants enrolled in the IPTP prior to January 15, 2019 and who have received an insulin pump provided under the IPTP prior to January 15, 2019 will continue to receive coverage for an insulin pump and IPT supplies under the IPTP provided they meet the clinical criteria as outlined in the *Insulin Pump Therapy Program - Clinical Criteria* as assessed at their annual clinical review, and provided they meet all eligibility criteria in section 2 other than those specified in sections 2(d), 2(e), 2(h), and 2(i).
- b. Notwithstanding section 2, IPTP participants enrolled in the IPTP prior to January 15, 2019 and who have not received an insulin pump provided under the IPTP prior to January 15, 2019 will continue to receive coverage only for IPT supplies until the end on the date outlined in their Confirmation Letter. After this date, such IPTP participant will be deemed to have been discontinued as an IPTP participant, will not be entitled to

further coverage, and will be sent a Discontinuation Letter unless, prior to such date, they have applied for re-enrollment in the IPTP; have satisfied all eligibility criteria and all clinical criteria as outlined in the Insulin Pump Therapy Program – Clinical Criteria; and have received another Confirmation Letter with a new effective enrollment date, confirming that such person is an IPTP participant from such new effective enrollment date.

Coverage

- a. Subject to section 4(a) and (b), IPTP participants are eligible, from the date stated in their Confirmation Letter, for an insulin pump every five years and IPT supplies to support its use, unless they are discontinued from the IPTP.
- b. The Minister has the right to refuse to pay claims made for an insulin pump and/or IPT supplies in their sole discretion, including, but not limited to, for reasons relating to wastage or fraud.
- c. Insulin Pumps:
 - i. IPTP participants are eligible for a replacement insulin pump every five years from the date the previous insulin pump was delivered from the insulin pump manufacturer.
 - ii. Insulin pumps must be obtained directly from one of the approved insulin pump manufacturers, on a direct bill basis, in order to be covered under the IPTP.
 - iii. Insulin pumps covered under the IPTP come with a warranty from the insulin pump manufacturer.
 - iv. Where the IPTP participant has a defective insulin pump, the IPTP participant will contact the insulin pump manufacturer for replacement or repair pursuant to the terms and conditions of the insulin pump manufacturer's warranty.
 - v. Where an insulin pump manufacturer refuses to provide a replacement insulin pump or repair a defective insulin pump, the IPTP participant will contact ABC, who will contact the Pharmaceutical and Health Benefits Branch of AH. The Executive Director, Pharmaceutical and Health Benefits Branch, AH at their sole discretion may authorize ABC to provide coverage for a new replacement insulin pump for the IPTP participant.
- d. IPT Supplies:
 - i. IPTP participants will receive coverage for the following IPT supplies, subject to the limits below, unless they are discontinued from the IPTP:
 1. Infusion sets: up to 100 units per 100 days
 2. Insulin cartridges / reservoirs / pods: up to 100 units per 100 days
 3. Serters: up to 1 unit per year
 4. Skin preparation (dressings, skin adhesives and adhesive removers): up to \$100 per year
 5. Blood glucose test strips: up to 700 units per 100 days
 6. Blood ketone test strips: up to 20 units per 100 days
 7. Blood ketone test meter: up to 1 unit every 2 years
 8. Lancets: up to 700 units per 100 days
 9. Insulin syringes or Pen tip needles: up to 100 units per 100 days
 - ii. IPT supplies must be obtained from a licensed pharmacy in Alberta and/or one of the approved insulin pump manufacturers, on a direct bill basis, in order to be covered under the IPTP.
 - iii. Where an IPTP participant requests an exception to the IPT supply limits set out above, the IPTP participant should contact the pharmacy or insulin pump manufacturer from whom the supplies were obtained, and they will contact ABC. ABC will contact the Pharmaceutical and Health Benefits Branch of AH. The Executive Director, Pharmaceutical and Health Benefits Branch, AH at its sole discretion may authorize ABC to provide coverage for IPT supplies outside of the above mentioned limits.
- e. Coverage under the IPTP is provided on a direct bill basis to pharmacies and/or insulin pump manufacturers only. IPTP participants will not be reimbursed for IPT supplies or an insulin pump paid by them personally.

The effective date of this document is January 15, 2019. Corrections January 23, 2019