



## Osteoporosis Medication Table Update

This is a 2022 update to the BC Provincial Academic Detailing (PAD) Service's 2011 table "Bisphosphonate Medications for Osteoporosis," which includes all medications for osteoporosis that are approved in Canada. For complete details on PharmaCare coverage of medications for osteoporosis in British Columbia, please see the [PharmaCare Special Authority web page](#).

Osteoporosis Medications Currently Available in Canada <sup>1</sup>				
Generic Name, Brand Name, Available Strengths	Health Canada Osteoporosis Indications	Dosage and Annual Cost <sup>†</sup>		PharmaCare Coverage
BISPHOSPHONATES				
alendronate FOSAMAX, generics 5, 10, 70 mg tabs  alendronate + vitamin D3 FOSAVANCE 70 mg/2800, 70 mg/5600 IU tabs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Postmenopausal women</li><li>Men</li><li>Glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis</li></ul>	5 mg PO once a day	\$410	Non-benefit
		10 mg PO once a day	\$160	Limited Coverage
		70 mg PO once a week	\$120	
		70 mg/5600 IU PO once a week	\$115	
		70 mg/2800 IU PO once a week	\$210	Non-benefit
risedronate ACTONEL, ACTONEL DR, generics 5, 35, 150 mg tabs 35 mg delayed-release (DR) tabs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Postmenopausal women</li><li>Men</li><li>Glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis</li></ul>	5 mg PO once a day	\$695	Limited Coverage
		35 mg PO once a week	\$110	Non-benefit
		35 mg DR PO once a week	\$565	
		150 mg PO once a month	\$530	
zoledronic acid ACLASTA, generics 5 mg/100 mL vial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Postmenopausal women</li><li>Men</li><li>Glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis</li></ul>	5 mg IV infusion once a year	\$360	Limited Coverage
DENOSUMAB rank ligand inhibitor				
denosumab PROLIA 60 mg single prefilled syringe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Postmenopausal women</li><li>Men</li><li>Glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis</li><li>Nonmetastatic breast cancer receiving adjuvant aromatase inhibitor therapy</li><li>Nonmetastatic prostate cancer receiving androgen deprivation therapy</li></ul>	60 mg subcut every 6 months	\$860	Limited Coverage
RALOXIFENE selective estrogen receptor modulator				
raloxifene EVISTA, generics 60 mg tabs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Postmenopausal women</li></ul>	60 mg PO once a day	\$405	Limited Coverage
ROMOSOZUMAB sclerostin inhibitor				
romosozumab EVENTY 105 mg single prefilled syringe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Postmenopausal women</li></ul>	210 mg subcut once a month maximum treatment: 12 months	\$8510	Non-benefit
TERIPARATIDE synthetic parathyroid hormone				
teriparatide FORTEO, generics OSNUVO biosimilar 250 mcg/mL multidose prefilled pen or cartridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Postmenopausal women</li><li>Men</li><li>Glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis</li></ul>	20 mcg subcut once a day maximum treatment: 24 months	\$7960	Non-benefit
† <b>tabs</b> tablets; <b>PO</b> by mouth; <b>IU</b> international units; <b>IV</b> intravenous; <b>subcut</b> subcutaneous; ‡ Cost without mark-up, professional fee or administration; calculated from McKesson Canada https://www.mckesson.ca/ (accessed April 7, 2022)				

**tabs** tablets; **PO** by mouth; **IU** international units; **IV** intravenous; **subcut** subcutaneous;

<sup>†</sup> Cost without mark-up, professional fee or administration; calculated from McKesson Canada <https://www.mckesson.ca/> (accessed April 7, 2022)

<sup>1</sup> Health Canada Drug Product Database