

# 2021 REFERENCE DRUG PROGRAM (RDP) POSTER

RDP Category	2021 Changes	Fully Covered Drugs (reference drugs)	Partially Covered Drugs (non-reference drugs)*	Maximum Coverage for Partially Covered Drugs**
Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEIs)	<b>NO CHANGE</b>  <b>Specialists exempted from submitting RDP Special Authority requests:</b> paediatric cardiology, paediatrics.	ramipril with/without HCTZ	benazepril captopril cilazapril with/without HCTZ enalapril with/without HCTZ fosinopril lisinopril with/without HCTZ perindopril quinapril with/without HCTZ trandolapril	\$0.2011/day based on ramipril 10 mg once daily
Angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs)	<b>NO CHANGE</b> Requires Special Authority.	candesartan with/without HCTZ losartan with/without HCTZ telmisartan with/without HCTZ or amlodipine valsartan with/without HCTZ	eprosartan with/without HCTZ irbesartan with/without HCTZ olmesartan with/without HCTZ	\$0.2719/day based on losartan 50 mg once daily
Dihydropyridine calcium channel blockers (CCBs)	<b>NO CHANGE</b> <b>Specialists exempted from submitting RDP Special Authority requests:</b> cardiologists, cardiovascular and thoracic surgery, internists specializing in cardiology, nephrologists, paediatrics, paediatric cardiology.	amlodipine	felodipine nifedipine	\$0.3874/day based on amlodipine 10 mg once daily
Histamine2 receptor blockers (H2 blockers)	<b>NO CHANGE</b> <b>Exempted Specialists:</b> paediatric cardiology, paediatrics, paediatric general surgery.	ranitidine	cimetidine famotidine nizatidine	\$0.3888/day based on ranitidine 300 mg once daily
Nitrates	<b>CATEGORY REMOVED:</b> isosorbide dinitrate 5mg, 10mg, 30mg, and isosorbide mononitrate 60mg ER are regular PharmaCare benefits			
Non-Steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs)	<b>All patients on NSAIDs before the 2021 changes and who have filled their prescription in the 6 months prior to April 1, 2021 will maintain their coverage even if their drug is removed from the RDP category.</b> NSAIDs that are removed from the non-reference tier of the RDP will still be available via Special Authority but as Limited Coverage drugs. For information regarding updated criteria for all non-reference RDP NSAIDs, and Limited Coverage NSAIDs (including celecoxib and meloxicam), see the <a href="#">Special Authority website</a> .  <b>Specialists exempted from submitting RDP Special Authorities:</b> paediatrics, paediatric cardiology, paediatric general surgery, physical medicine and rehabilitation, rheumatology.	ibuprofen 400 mg, 600 mg naproxen 250 mg, 375 mg, 500 mg	diclofenac regular 25 mg or 50 mg diclofenac SR 75 mg or 100 mg naproxen enteric-coated 250 mg, 375 mg, 500 mg naproxen SR 750 mg	\$0.2400/day based on ibuprofen 2400 mg once daily
Proton Pump Inhibitors (PPIs)	<b>NO CHANGE</b> Coverage of any PPI (including the reference drugs) requires Special Authority; however, trial of H2 blockers no longer required.  <b>Specialists exempted from submitting RDP Special Authorities:</b> gastroenterologists do not need to submit Special Authority requests for pantoprazole or rabeprazole.	pantoprazole magnesium 40 mg rabeprazole 20 mg rabeprazole 10 mg	esomeprazole 20 or 40 mg lansoprazole 15 or 30 mg omeprazole 20 mg pantoprazole sodium 40 mg	\$0.2025/ day based on pantoprazole Mg 40 mg once daily
Statins	<b>NO CHANGE</b>	atorvastatin rosuvastatin	fluvastatin lovastatin pravastatin simvastatin	\$0.2632/day based on rosuvastatin 10 mg once daily

NOTE: PharmaCare may not cover all strengths/formulations. Pharmacists, please dispense specific drug product, as usual, according to the [RDP](#), [Low Cost Alternative Program](#), and [PharmaCare Full Payment Policy](#). For specific drug coverage information, visit [www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarecostalternativprogram](http://www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarecostalternativprogram).

If a patient has been prescribed all the fully covered drugs in a category, and is found unable to take those drugs due to intolerance or another medical reason, a prescriber may submit a Special Authority request for full coverage of a partially covered drug.