### Appendix A – Prescription Medication Table for the Treatment of Obesity in Adults

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generic Name (Trade name)</th>
<th>Adult Oral Dose</th>
<th>Cost per 30 days</th>
<th>PharmaCare Coverage</th>
<th>Therapeutic Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orlistat (Xenical®)</td>
<td>120 mg capsule</td>
<td>$49.50 – $148.50</td>
<td>No Coverage</td>
<td>Take with each meal containing fat <em>(during or up to 1 hour after each meal).</em> Dose may be omitted if meal is occasionally missed or contains no fat. Some side effects include: oily spotting, steatorrhea, abdominal bloating, fecal incontinence. All worsen with high fat diets. Avoid if inflammatory bowel disease, chronic malabsorption, cholestasis, hypersensitivity. Interactions: cyclosporine, amiodarone, levothyroxine, warfarin [i.e. interaction may occur due to reduced vitamin K absorption]. May decrease absorption of vitamins A, D, E, K. Recommend daily multivitamin, taken 2 hours before or after orlistat.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pricing is approximate as per PharmaNet 2010/07/19 excluding dispensing fees or as per PPS® PHARMA: Buyers Guide, Western and Atlantic Edition; Moncton, NB: Total Pricing Systems Inc. July 2010.**

**PharmaCare Coverage Definitions**

- **G:** generic(s) are available.
- **regular coverage:** also known as regular benefit; does not require Special Authority; patients may receive full coverage*
- **partial coverage:** Some types of regular benefits are only partially covered* because they are included in the Low Cost Alternative (LCA) program or Reference Drug Program (RDP) as follows:
  - **LCA:** When multiple medications contain the same active ingredient (usually generic products), patients receive full coverage* for the drug with the lowest average PharmaCare claimed price. The remaining products get partial coverage.
  - **RDP:** When a number of products contain different active ingredients but are in the same therapeutic class, patients receive full coverage* for the drug that is medically effective and the most cost-effective. This drug is designated as the Reference Drug. The remaining products get partial coverage.
- **Special Authority:** requires Special Authority for coverage. Patients may receive full or partial coverage* depending on LCA or RDP status. These drugs are not normally regarded as first-line therapies or there are drugs for which a more cost-effective alternative exists.
- **no coverage:** does not fit any of the above categories;

*coverage is subject to drug price limits set by PharmaCare and to the patient’s PharmaCare plan rules and deductibles. See [www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/](http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/) for further information.

**References:**

- Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties: The Canadian Drug Reference for Health Professionals. Ottawa, Ontario: Canadian Pharmacists Association; 2010