

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

Generic Name (Trade name) <i>dosage form and strength</i>	Adult Oral Dose	Cost per 30 days	PharmaCare Coverage	Therapeutic Considerations
Gastrointestinal Lipase Inhibitor				
Orlistat (Xenical®) 120 mg capsule	120 mg one to three times daily	\$ 49.50 – \$ 148.50	No Coverage	Take with each meal containing fat (<i>during or up to 1 hour after each meal</i>). 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.

Nb: Please review product monographs and regularly review current listings of Health Canada advisories, warnings and recalls at: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/advisories-avis/index_e.html
See www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharme/ for further information

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/ for further information.

References:

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