



# Refills

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May 2021

## Hypertension Medication Table Update

This is a 2021 update to the BC Provincial Academic Detailing (PAD) Service's table in [Hypertension in Primary Care: Blood Pressure Goals for Adults Aged 60 and Older \(2017\)](#). For complete details on PharmaCare coverage of medications for hypertension in British Columbia, please see the [PharmaCare Special Authority web page](#). For an update on the comparative efficacy of these medication classes, the 2018 Cochrane Systematic Review [First-line drugs for hypertension](#) is publicly accessible.

Hypertension medications currently available in Canada <sup>1-3</sup>			
Medication	Dose: Health Canada initial dose (daily dosage range in brackets)	Annual cost <sup>†</sup>	BC PharmaCare coverage
<b>Thiazides</b>			
<b>CHLORTHALIDONE</b> 50 mg tabs <sup>generic</sup> +azilsartan <sup>no PharmaCare coverage, see ARB section</sup>	12.5 mg once a day (12.5-50 mg)	\$15 <sup>quarter</sup> 50 mg tablet	Regular benefit
<b>HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE</b> 12.5, 25, 50 mg tabs <sup>generic</sup> + amiloride (5/50 mg hydrochlorothiazide) <sup>generic</sup> + triamterene (50/25 mg hydrochlorothiazide) <sup>generic</sup> + ACEI + ARB	12.5 mg once a day (12.5-50 mg)	\$15	Regular benefit  see ACEI or ARB section
<b>INDAPAMIDE</b> 1.25, 2.5 mg tabs <sup>Lozide, generic</sup> + perindopril <sup>no PharmaCare coverage, see ACEI section</sup>	1.25 mg once a day (1.25-2.5 mg)	\$30	Limited Coverage <a href="#">Special Authority</a>
<b>Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEI)</b>		<a href="#">Reference Drug Program ACEI decision tree</a>	
<b>RAMIPRIL</b> 1.25, 2.5, 5, 10, 15 mg caps <sup>Altace, generic</sup> + hydrochlorothiazide 2.5/12.5, 5/12.5, 10/12.5, 5/25, 10/25 mg <sup>Altace HCT, generic</sup>	2.5 mg once a day (1.25-20 mg)	\$35 \$90	Fully covered <sup>*</sup>
<b>BENZAEPRI</b> 5, 10, 20 mg tabs <sup>generic</sup>	10 mg once day (5-40 mg)	\$420	Partially covered <sup>‡</sup>
<b>CILAZAPRIL</b> 1, 2.5, 5 mg tabs <sup>Inhibace, generic</sup> + hydrochlorothiazide 5/12.5 mg <sup>Inhibace Plus, generic</sup>	2.5 mg once a day (0.5-10 mg)	\$170 \$165	
<b>ENALAPRIL</b> 2.5, 5, 10, 20 mg tabs <sup>Vasotec, generic</sup> + hydrochlorothiazide 5/12.5, 10/25 mg <sup>Vaseretic, generic</sup>	5 mg once a day (2.5-40 mg)	\$90 \$305	
<b>FOSINOPRIL</b> 10, 20 mg tabs <sup>generic</sup>	10 mg once a day (10-40 mg)	\$85	
<b>LISINOPRIL</b> 5, 10, 20 mg tabs <sup>Zestril, generic</sup> + hydrochlorothiazide 10/12.5, 20/12.5, 20/25 mg <sup>Zestoretic, generic</sup>	10 mg once a day (2.5-80 mg)	\$65 \$85	
<b>PERINDOPRIL</b> 2, 4, 8 mg tabs <sup>Coversyl, generic</sup> + indapamide 2/0.625, 4/1.25, 8/2.5 mg <sup>Coversyl Plus, generic</sup> + amlodipine 3.5/2.5, 7/5, 14/10 mg <sup>Viacoram, generic</sup>	4 mg once a day (2-8 mg)	\$85 \$345 \$320	
<b>QUINAPRIL</b> 5, 10, 20, 40 mg tabs <sup>Accupril, generic</sup> + hydrochlorothiazide 10/12.5, 20/12.5, 20/25 mg <sup>Accuretic, generic</sup>	10 mg once a day (2.5-40 mg)	\$185 \$190	
<b>TRANDOLAPRIL</b> 0.5, 1, 2, 4 mg caps <sup>Mavik, generic</sup>	1 mg once a day (0.5-4 mg)	\$70	Non-benefit  Partially covered <sup>‡</sup>

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Hypertension medications currently available in Canada<sup>1,2</sup>

Medication	Dose: Health Canada initial dose (daily dosage range in brackets)	Annual cost <sup>†</sup>	BC PharmaCare coverage
<b>Angiotensin II receptor antagonists (ARB)</b>		<a href="#">Reference Drug Program ARB decision tree</a>	
CANDESARTAN 4, 8, 16, 32 mg tabs Atacand, generic + hydrochlorothiazide 16/12.5, 32/12.5, 32/25 mg Atacand Plus, generic	16 mg once a day (4-32 mg)	\$90	Limited Coverage <a href="#">Special Authority</a>
		\$85	
		\$100	
LOSARTAN 25, 50, 100 mg tabs Cozaar, generic + hydrochlorothiazide 50/12.5, 100/12.5, 100/25 mg Hyzaar, Hyzaar DS, generic	50 mg once a day (25-100 mg)	\$100	
		\$100	
TELMISARTAN 40, 80 mg tabs Micardis, generic + hydrochlorothiazide 80/12.5, 80/25 mg Micardis Plus, generic + amlodipine 40/5, 40/10, 80/5, 40/10 mg Twynsta	80 mg once a day (40-80 mg)	\$85	
		\$85	
		\$290	
VALSARTAN 40, 80, 160, 320 mg tabs Diovan, generic + hydrochlorothiazide 80/12.5, 160/12.5, 160/25, 320/12.5, 320/25 mg Diovan HCT, generic	80 mg once a day (80-320 mg)	\$85	
		\$90	
EPROSARTAN 400, 600 mg tabs Teveten + hydrochlorothiazide 600/12.5 mg Teveten Plus	600 mg once a day (400-600 mg)	\$470	Limited Coverage (Partially Covered) <a href="#">Special Authority</a>
		\$470	
IRBESARTAN 75, 150, 300 mg tabs Avapro, generic + hydrochlorothiazide 150/12.5, 300/12.5, 300/25 mg Avalide, generic	150 mg once a day (75-300 mg)	\$90	
		\$90	
OLMESARTAN 20, 40 mg tabs Olmetec, generic + hydrochlorothiazide 20/12.5, 40/12.5, 40/25 mg Olmetec Plus, generic	20 mg once a day (20-40 mg)	\$110	
		\$120	
AZILSARTAN 40, 80 mg tabs Edarbi + chlorthalidone 40/12.5, 40/25 mg Edarbyclor	40 mg once a day (40-80 mg)	\$505	Non-benefit
		\$490	
<b>Calcium channel blockers (CCB)</b>		<a href="#">Reference Drug Program CCB decision tree</a>	
<b>Dihydropyridine</b>			
AMLODIPINE 2.5, 5, 10 mg tabs Norvasc, generic + telmisartan 40/5, 40/10, 80/5, 80/10 mg Twynsta + perindopril 3.5/2.5, 7/5, 14/10 mg Viacoram	5 mg once a day (2.5-10 mg)	\$55	Fully covered*
		\$290	Limited Coverage <a href="#">Special Authority</a>
		\$320	Non-benefit
FELODIPINE extended release tabs 2.5, 5, 10 mg Plendil, generic	5 mg once a day (2.5-10 mg)	\$135	Partially covered <sup>‡</sup>
NIFEDIPINE extended release tabs 30, 60 mg Adalat XL, generic	20 or 30 mg once a day (20-90 mg)	\$245	
<b>Non-dihydropyridine</b>			
DILTIAZEM controlled delivery caps (CD) 120, 180, 240, 300 mg generic extended release caps (ER) 120, 180, 240, 300, 360 mg Tiazac, generic extended release tabs (XC) 120, 180, 240, 300, 360 mg Tiazac XC	120-240 mg once a day (120-360 mg)	\$140 <sup>CD</sup>	Regular benefit
		\$85 <sup>ER</sup>	
		\$355 <sup>XC</sup>	
VERAPAMIL 120, 180, 240 mg sustained release tabs Isoptin SR, generic	180 or 240 mg once a day (120-480 mg) with food (divide doses > 240 mg per day)	\$205	Regular benefit
* Subject to the patient's PharmaCare plan and criteria (ie. income-based deductible)			
<sup>†</sup> Cost: annual approximate drug cost without mark-up and professional fee; calculated from McKesson Canada <a href="https://www.mckesson.ca">https://www.mckesson.ca</a> (Accessed: April 15, 2021)			
<sup>‡</sup> Partially covered drugs may be eligible for full coverage by PharmaCare with approved <a href="#">Special Authority</a>			

<sup>1</sup> Health Canada Drug Product Monographs; <sup>2</sup> BC PAD Hypertension Newsletter 2017; <sup>3</sup> Thiazide Diuretics. CPhA Monograph. e-CPS [Internet]. Ottawa, Ontario: Canadian Pharmacists Association