

Do I need a referral to talk with the Drug Access Coordinator?

No, you can call them directly. Their contact information is on this brochure.

Does it cost anything to see the Drug Access Coordinator?

No, there is no cost.



Can a family member or friend call for me?

Yes! As long as you give your family member or friend your consent.

No matter where you receive treatment, a Drug Access Coordinator is available to you:

Northern Alberta and Red Deer

Cross Cancer Institute
Monday – Friday
780-643-4309

Southern Alberta

Arthur J.E. Child Comprehensive
Cancer Centre
Monday – Friday
587-231-3570
(ask for the Drug Access Coordinator)



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Information for
patients & families

Cancer Care Drug Coverage



Support and Counselling



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Does Alberta Health Care cover the costs for cancer treatment?

Alberta Health Care covers some treatment, but **does not cover everything**.

Patients are often surprised to find out that Alberta Health Care does not cover medications that help manage side effects, and some treatment drugs.

Even with a drug plan, these medications can be very expensive and may cost thousands of dollars.



What are my options?

1. Check to see if you can **raise your yearly maximum amount for medications** with your current insurance plan.
2. Contact a Cancer Care Alberta **Drug Access Coordinator** for help.
3. Sign up for **Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Insurance** for extra coverage.

How can the Drug Access Coordinator help?

The Drug Access Coordinator can:

- explain the different drug funding options available to you
- talk with the drug companies to see if there are any programs that cover, or share the cost of the drug you need
- help you apply for drug funding or insurance coverage
- work with your care team to manage concerns about the cost of your medications



Funding programs are available through the drug companies.

Check with your Drug Access Coordinator

What if my current drug plan only covers 70% and the other 30% is too much for me to pay?

There are some programs that can help with co-pay costs. Call and ask your Drug Access Coordinator.

What is Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Insurance?

Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group is specialized insurance sponsored by the Alberta Government that offers:

- prescription medication coverage even if you have a pre-existing illness
- subsidized or lower premiums than most standard plans
- a maximum co-pay of \$25 for approved drugs that cost over \$100
- cancellation without penalty at any time
- transfers from current insurance coverage within 30 days
- premiums that start when coverage starts



Talk to your Drug Access Coordinator to get enrollment forms and more information on Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Insurance.



It takes **3 months** to activate **new coverage**, so it's important for you to sign up as soon as possible!