

Important information for existing insulin pump patients – New Alberta Health Insulin Pump Therapy Program effective June 1, 2013

Are you an Alberta resident with Type 1 Diabetes who was using an insulin pump as of June 1, 2013? If so, you may be eligible to have your Insulin Pump Therapy (IPT) supplies covered for five years.

What should you do if you were on an insulin pump prior to June 1, 2013?

Ask your private insurer if your insulin pump supplies will continue to be covered until you require a replacement pump.

What if I don't have coverage of IPT supplies or my coverage will be discontinued?

1. Ask a physician or nurse practitioner to complete the Alberta Health Supply Authorization Request Form for insulin pump supplies. Alberta Health has made this form available to physicians and nurse practitioners and it can also be accessed online at <http://www.health.alberta.ca/services/insulin-pump-therapy-program.html>.
2. Your health care provider will consult your health records or may ask you for the purchase receipt to confirm that you were using an insulin pump prior to June 1, 2013.
3. The physician or nurse practitioner will fax the completed form to Alberta Blue Cross who will mail you a letter confirming your enrollment in the IPT program as an existing user. This will entitle you basic IPT supplies for a period of up to 5 years from the date stated in the confirmation letter. The letter will also outline what supplies are covered and how to obtain them. Patients enrolled in the Insulin Pump Therapy Program may have their coverage discontinued if they cease to meet clinical coverage criteria, at the discretion of diabetes health care professionals at approved Diabetes Insulin Pump Clinics.

What should I do if you wish to continue IPT coverage when my current pump is five years old?

You are encouraged to get a referral to one of the approved Diabetes Insulin Pump Clinics from a physician or nurse practitioner at least one year before your current insulin pump is five years old. See [Approved Diabetes Insulin Pump Clinics](#) - Contact and Referral Information for more information. You will be booked for an assessment appointment at the clinic to determine whether you meet the criteria for the new IPT Program. Continued coverage is not guaranteed, but if you meet the criteria, you will be enrolled in the IPT Program with coverage for a new insulin pump every five years and ongoing IPT supplies.

For more information on IPT visit:

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/services.asp?pid=service&rid=1061556>