

DATE:	22 June 2026
TO:	All Zones
FROM:	Molecular Genetics North, Genetics and Genomics, Alberta Precision Laboratories
RE:	Apolipoprotein E (APOE) Genotyping Companion Testing for Anti-amyloid Therapies

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Lecanemab (Leqembi) was approved by Health Canada in October 2025; however, it has not been recommended for reimbursement by the Canadian Drug Expert Committee. As a result, APOE genotyping remains unfunded in Alberta. Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL) Molecular Genetics does not currently offer apolipoprotein E (APOE) genotyping. Therefore, patients who require this test as a companion diagnostic to assess eligibility for Lecanemab anti-amyloid therapy are advised to request it directly through the Dynacare website.

Background

- Lecanemab (Leqembi), approved for use by Health Canada in October 2025, is an anti-amyloid therapy for the treatment of patients diagnosed with early-stage Alzheimer's disease, with confirmed amyloid pathology, and who do not carry the APOE ϵ 4 allele especially in the homozygous state.
- APOE ϵ 4 homozygous individuals are at greater risk of developing potentially serious side-effects associated with Lecanemab therapy collectively known as amyloid-related imaging abnormalities (ARIA).
- APOE genotyping companion testing is consequently required to stratify risk and establish Lecanemab eligibility.
- Because Lecanemab has not been recommended for reimbursement by the Canadian Drug Expert Committee, APOE genotyping remains unfunded in Alberta.

How this will impact you

- Test requests submitted to APL Molecular Genetics for APOE genotyping will be cancelled, and no testing will be performed.

Action Required

- To access APOE genotyping testing, please refer the patient directly to the Dynacare website (<https://www.dynacare.ca/find-a-test.aspx?sr=NAT&st=APOE>).
- Dynacare offers APOE Risk Factor Genotyping for the APOE ϵ 4 variant as a direct-to-consumer, self-collection patient pay test, and results may be accessed directly by the patient using the Dynacare portal.
- Ordering information is provided below:

Test name:	APOE Risk Factor
Test ID:	APER
Cost:	\$158 CAD
Specimen type:	Self-collection, buccal swab



Effective Immediately

Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetics and Genomics, APL
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Approved by

- Dr. Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetics & Genomics, APL
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim), APL