

# Leveling the Field in Canada

**Are you being denied provincial pharmacare reimbursement coverage for biologic therapy to treat your rheumatoid arthritis?**

**If your answer is “Yes”, we encourage you to speak out and fight for your patient rights.**



## Here’s what you can do to help:

1. Look up your province’s ranking below
2. Visit [www.jointhehealth.org](http://www.jointhehealth.org) and click on JointHealth™ Report Card to learn more about the differences in biologic therapy provincial reimbursement coverage for people with rheumatoid arthritis
3. Write a letter to your provincial Minister of Health and provincially elected representative to advocate for improved reimbursement coverage

Biologic Therapies Reimbursement Rating	Province	Detailed Remarks
<b>Good</b>	BC SK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides Special Authority reimbursement for 5 out of 7 biologic therapies approved by Health Canada for use in rheumatoid arthritis.</li> <li>• Least restrictive Special Authority reimbursement criteria (e.g. fewest other medication failures required, and no interference in prescribing order).</li> <li>• Shortest wait times for initial processing of Special Authority reimbursement applications.</li> <li>• Fewest number of Special Authority reimbursement renewal applications required.</li> <li>• Formal or informal appeal mechanism in place for Special Authority reimbursement coverage denials.</li> </ul>
<b>Average</b>	AB ON QC NB NS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides Special Authority reimbursement for 5 out of 7 biologic therapies approved by Health Canada for use in rheumatoid arthritis.</li> <li>• Somewhat restrictive Special Authority reimbursement criteria (e.g. other medication failures required, some interference in prescribing order).</li> <li>• Longer wait times for initial processing of Special Authority reimbursement applications.</li> <li>• Special Authority reimbursement renewal applications required before one full year of coverage expires.</li> <li>• No transparent appeal mechanism in place for Special Authority reimbursement coverage denials.</li> </ul>
<b>Poor</b>	MB NFLD NIHB NT NU PEI YT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides Special Authority reimbursement for 4 out of 7 biologic therapies approved by Health Canada for use in rheumatoid arthritis.</li> <li>• Overly restrictive Special Authority reimbursement criteria (e.g. other medication failures required, interference in prescribing order).</li> <li>• Longest wait times for initial processing of Special Authority reimbursement applications.</li> <li>• Special Authority reimbursement renewal applications required before one full year of coverage expires.</li> <li>• No appeal mechanism in place for Special Authority reimbursement coverage denials.</li> </ul>