

Report Card on Provincial Formulary Reimbursement Listings for Biologic Response Modifiers

Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) ranks publicly funded medication formularies based on the number of medically necessary arthritis medications (biologic response modifiers or “biologics”) they list out of a possible eleven.

Biologics are the gold standard in treatment for rheumatoid arthritis, axial spondyloarthritis (which includes ankylosing spondylitis and non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis), juvenile idiopathic arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, osteoporosis, systemic lupus erythematosus, and two severe forms of vasculitis (Wegener’s Granulomatosis and Microscopic Polyangiitis).

Formularies are awarded one point for each case-by-case (CBC) listing, three-quarters of a point for

a listing that has overly restrictive criteria (ORC), and no points for “Declined” listings or files remaining “Under Review”. In some cases, information about a medication was unavailable. Where this lack of transparency occurred, ACE put “Unknown” and did not award any points.

People with arthritis, with the help of the doctors who treat them, deserve to be able to choose the medication most appropriate for their specific risk factors. After reading the Report Card, if you are disappointed with your province’s performance, consider making your provincial government aware of your concerns. For tips on how to communicate with elected officials or key decision-makers, please visit our “What You Can Do” page within the “Taking Action” section of the JointHealth™ website.

Biologic Chart : Updated February 2014

generic name (Brand Name)	rheumatoid arthritis	axial spondyloarthritis		juvenile idiopathic arthritis	psoriatic arthritis	systemic lupus erythematosus	vasculitis	osteoporosis
		ankylosing spondylitis (active disease)	non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (not visible on X-ray)					
1st : Saskatchewan (4th in 2013, 4th in 2012, 2nd in 2011, 2nd in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Listed—CBC	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A

1st : Ontario (3rd in 2013, 1st in 2012, 5th in 2011, 7th in 2010)

abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Listed—CBC	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A

generic name (Brand Name)	rheumatoid arthritis	axial spondyloarthritis		juvenile idiopathic arthritis	psoriatic arthritis	systemic lupus erythematosus	vasculitis	osteoporosis
		ankylosing spondylitis (active disease)	non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (not visible on X-ray)					
3rd : British Columbia (1st in 2013, 2nd in 2012, 1st in 2011, 4th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Listed—CBC	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

3rd : Québec (1st in 2013, 2nd in 2012, 2nd in 2011, 1st in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Listed—CBC	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

5th : Manitoba (8th in 2013, 11th in 2012, 11th in 2011, 11th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Under Review	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Listed—CBC	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Unknown	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

generic name (Brand Name)	rheumatoid arthritis	axial spondyloarthritis		juvenile idiopathic arthritis	psoriatic arthritis	systemic lupus erythematosus	vasculitis	osteoporosis
		ankylosing spondylitis (active disease)	non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (not visible on X-ray)					
6th : Alberta (5th in 2013, 5th in 2012, 4th in 2011, 2nd in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—ORC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Under Review	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

7th : New Brunswick (6th in 2013, 6th in 2012, 5th in 2011, 4th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Declined	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

7th : Nova Scotia (6th in 2013, 8th in 2012, 8th in 2011, 7th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Under Review	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

generic name (Brand Name)	rheumatoid arthritis	axial spondyloarthritis		juvenile idiopathic arthritis	psoriatic arthritis	systemic lupus erythematosus	vasculitis	osteoporosis
		ankylosing spondylitis (active disease)	non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (not visible on X-ray)					
7th : Prince Edward Island (8th in 2013, 10th in 2012, 8th in 2011, 9th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Listed—CBC	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

10th : Newfoundland and Labrador (10th in 2013, 6th in 2012, 5th in 2011, 4th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Under Review	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

10th : NIHB* (10th in 2013, 8th in 2012, 8th in 2011, 9th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Listed—CBC	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Listed—CBC	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Listed—CBC	N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Declined		Listed—CBC	N/A	Declined	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A

generic name (Brand Name)	rheumatoid arthritis	axial spondyloarthritis		juvenile idiopathic arthritis	psoriatic arthritis	systemic lupus erythematosus	vasculitis	osteoporosis
		ankylosing spondylitis (active disease)	non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis (not visible on X-ray)					
12th : Yukon (12th in 2013, 12th in 2012, 12th in 2011, 12th in 2010)								
abatacept (Orencia®)	Listed—CBC	N/A	This is a new medical term used to describe early disease not yet visible on X-ray.	Under Review	In Trials	N/A	N/A	N/A
adalimumab (Humira®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
belimumab (Benlysta®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A
certolizumab pegol (Cimzia®)	Under Review	Under Review		N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A
denosumab (Prolia®)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Listed—CBC
etanercept (Enbrel®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		Under Review	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
golimumab (Simponi®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
infliximab (Remicade®)	Listed—CBC	Listed—CBC		N/A	Listed—CBC	N/A	N/A	N/A
rituximab (Rituxan®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A
tocilizumab (Actemra®)	Listed—CBC	N/A		Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ustekinumab (Stelara®)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Under Review	N/A	N/A	N/A	

* **Note:** People living in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, who do not have private health insurance, have coverage for those drugs listed on the federal Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Formulary.

Definitions

Declined: The formulary does not reimburse patients prescribed this medication.

In Trials: This medication is undergoing testing for use in treating this disease type.

Listed — CBC: Each province and territory has a process by which medications that are not normally included in the provincial, territorial or federal drug benefit lists are covered (or reimbursed). Approval of this drug is granted on a case-by-case basis.

Listed — ORC: The medication is listed, but the criteria are not supported by medical evidence. Arthritis Consumer Experts considers these overly restrictive criteria (ORC) unacceptable.

N/A: Not Applicable. No Notice of Compliance (or NOC) has been issued for this medication for this form of arthritis.

Under Review: This drug has been approved by Health Canada for this disease type and the province is considering whether patients should be reimbursed for it.

Unknown: There is no public information available.

CDR: The Common Drug Review (CDR) is part of the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health. The Common Drug Review (CDR) conducts objective, rigorous reviews of the clinical and cost effectiveness of drugs, and provides formulary listing recommendations to the publicly funded drug plans in Canada (except Quebec). (<http://cadth.ca/index.php/cdr>)

A note about the Report Card:

Because provincial formularies change frequently, we encourage you to contact the Ministry of Health in your province with questions you may have about medication listings of concern to you.

Disclaimer

The material contained in this or any other ACE publication is provided for general information only. It should not be relied on to suggest a course of treatment for a particular individual or as a substitute for consultation with qualified health professionals who are familiar with your individual medical needs. If you have any healthcare related questions or concerns, you should contact your physician. Never disregard medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in any ACE publication.



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