

## Ostomy Reimbursement

There's a wide variation in the level of reimbursement across Canada. For public insurance, some provinces cover the full cost of ostomy supplies for certain individuals.

Those with private insurance may be fully or partially covered for ostomy supplies. Coverage varies across insurance.

Through a combination of public programs and private charities, it may be possible to recover some medical expenses.

### Alberta

Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) assists Albertans with a long-term disability, chronic illness or terminal illness, in maintaining independence in their community. AADL provides funding for basic medical equipment and supplies to meet clinically assessed needs.

- ✓ 75% reimbursement of program price for ostomy supplies. Family pays the remaining 25% up to \$500 per year. Once the \$500 is exceeded, 100% coverage applies
- ✓ 100% coverage if family taxable income is less than \$12,610
- ✓ Individuals on private insurance plans may not be eligible if their plans cover the expenses

Please look at following link for more details:

<http://www.health.alberta.ca/services/aids-to-daily-living.html>

## British Columbia

The BC government provides support through the Pharmacare Program:

Net Annual Family Income	Family Deductible	Pharmacare Portion	Family Max
Below \$15,000	None	70% of prescription	2% of net income
\$15,000-\$30,000	2% of income	70% of prescription	3% of net income
Over \$30,000	3% of income	70% of prescription	4% of net income

SENIORS before 1939:

Net Annual Family Income	Family Deductible	Pharmacare Portion	Family Max.
Below \$33,000	None	75% of prescription	1.25% of net income
\$33,000-\$50,000	1% of income	75% of prescription	2% of net income
Over \$50,000	2% of income	75% of prescription	3% of net income

Once they have reached their Family Maximum, Pharmacare will pay 100% for the rest of the year.

100% coverage for persons who are:

- ✓ Permanent residents of a licensed long term care facility
- ✓ Persons eligible for benefits through Ministry of Human Resources
- ✓ Severely handicapped children eligible for "At Home" Program
- ✓ Registered with a provincial Cystic Fibrosis Clinic
- ✓ Clients eligible for financial assistance through mental health centres, palliative care and drug plans

Please look at following link for more details:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/health-drug-coverage/pharmacare-for-bc-residents/about-pharmacare>

## Manitoba

Ostomy supplies are distributed through the Manitoba Ostomy Program in Manitoba. This is a part of the Provincial Government's Department of Health. The

- ✓ Manitoba Ostomy Program provides 100% coverage for ostomy care products for all Manitoba residents living in their own residence
- ✓ Items that are not covered include specialty items such as deodorizers, hernia support binders and specialty undergarments
- ✓ There is no user fee or co-payment
- ✓ The supplies are ordered by the individual and distributed through a central warehouse in Winnipeg
- ✓ Clients may purchase non-registered items outside of the Manitoba Ostomy Program with no financial assistance

Please look at following link for more details:

<http://www.ostomy-winnipeg.ca/woasuppl.html>

## New Brunswick

Health Services Ostomy / Incontinence Program assists New Brunswick clients with coverage for ostomy, catheterization and incontinence supplies which are not covered by other agencies or private health insurance plans.

- ✓ No assistance is provided to the general public
- ✓ Full coverage is provided to those on social assistance, for residents of all ages, through the government's Ostomy / Incontinence program

Please look at following link for more details:

[http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services\\_renderer.8135.Health\\_Services\\_Ostomy\\_Incontinence\\_Program\\_.html](http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/services/services_renderer.8135.Health_Services_Ostomy_Incontinence_Program_.html)

### **Newfoundland and Labrador**

The Newfoundland and Labrador Prescription Drug Program (NLPDP) provides financial assistance for the purchase of eligible prescription medications for those who reside in the province.

- ✓ 100% - social assistance recipients with "Drug Cards"
- ✓ 75% - senior recipients of Guaranteed Income supplements with "Seniors Drug Card"
- ✓ One-time donation of supplies by Cancer Society if diagnosis is cancer

Please look at following link for more details:

[http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/prescription/nlpdp\\_plan\\_overview.html](http://www.health.gov.nl.ca/health/prescription/nlpdp_plan_overview.html)

### **Northwest Territories**

- ✓ Seniors over the age of 60, and those registered on social assistance are provided 100% coverage for prescribed supplies
- ✓ Other individuals may submit a letter from their physician to obtain approval from the Department of Health and Social Services for coverage, should this be granted, full coverage is provided

Please look at following link for more details:

<http://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/>

### **Nova Scotia**

The Nova Scotia Formulary details which drugs and devices are benefits under the Pharmacare Programs.

- ✓ 100% - seniors (65+) with income below \$16,000 per year
- ✓ Social assistance recipients
- ✓ Cancer Society covers 100% of cost if diagnosis is cancer
- ✓ 80% - all other seniors (65+)

Only certain ostomy supplies and products are covered. The covered products are limited to certain brands.

Please look at following link for more details on the covered products:

<https://novascotia.ca/dhw/pharmacare/formulary.asp>

## Nunavut

All full time residents of Nunavut are covered by the First Nations Inuit Health Branch for 100% of the costs of their ostomy supplies.

Please look at following link for more details:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca>

## Ontario

Through the Assistive Devices Program (ADP), Ontario help people with long-term physical disabilities pay for customized equipment, like wheelchairs and hearing aids.

The ADP also helps cover the cost of specialized supplies, such as those used with ostomies.

ADP eligible recipients:

- ✓ \$975 per year per ostomy required for at least 6 months (up to two ostomies)

Social assistance benefits or living in Long-Term Care Homes:

- ✓ \$1300 per year per ostomy required for at least 6 months (up to two ostomies)

Please look at following link for more details:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/enteral-feeding-and-ostomy>

## Prince Edward Island

- ✓ No cost for those on social assistance
- ✓ The Prince Edward Island Cancer Society will cover up to the full costs for new ostomates, provided the patient has a firm cancer diagnosis, this support will be limited to no longer than two years. This support is limited to 24 individuals for any given year
- ✓ There is no other government support

Please look at following link for more details on the Canadian Cancer Society:

<http://www.cancer.ca>

## Quebec

The Ostomy Appliances Program is intended for persons insured under the Québec Health Insurance Plan who have undergone a permanent colostomy, ileostomy or urostomy.

Regie de l'assurance maladie du Quebec:

- ✓ \$700 dollars is provided per year, per stoma to all registered participants
- ✓ Social aid recipients holding a claim slip (issued by the Ministere de l'Emploi et de la Solidarite sociale) can apply for full re-imbusement of the costs exceeding \$700 with the presentation of detailed receipts.

Please look at following link for more details:

<http://www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca/SiteCollectionDocuments/citoyens/en/depliants/depl-appareils-stomises-permanents-en.pdf>

## Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living (SAIL) provides assistance to people with physical disabilities to live a more active and independent lifestyle. It also helps people in the management of certain chronic health conditions.

- ✓ 50% reimbursement is supplied to all registered participants

Please look at following link for more details:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/health/accessing-health-care-services/health-services-for-people-with-disabilities/sail>

## Yukon

The Chronic Disease and Disability Benefits Program provides benefits for Yukon residents who have a chronic disease or a serious functional disability.

- ✓ Full coverage

Please look at following link for more details:

<http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/chronicdisease.php>