

How to apply for Special Authority approval from BC PharmaCare



One of the most important things you can do to control cost and ensure the sustainability of your benefits plan is to access PharmaCare's Special Authority program for certain prescription drugs considered limited coverage drugs.

For the list of Special Authority drugs, visit health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/sa/saindex.html#list.

Follow these steps for the Special Authority Program:

Step 1

To benefit from PharmaCare coverage, you must register online at health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare or by phone at 604 683-7151 (toll-free 1 800 663-7100), Monday to Friday 8 a.m.– 8 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m.– 4 p.m.

Step 2

Talk to your doctor. Your doctor applies to PharmaCare for Special Authority on your behalf. Forms are available online at health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/sa/criteria/formsindex.html. They must be completed by a physician* and faxed to PharmaCare.

Step 4

Fill your prescription. If approved, and you have a Pacific Blue Cross pay direct drug card, visit any pharmacy offering real-time Special Authority confirmation and the eligible claim amount will be deducted from your bill.

Find BC pharmacies offering real-time Special Authority confirmation at pharmacycompass.ca. If no pharmacies in your area offer real-time confirmation, please send a copy of your confirmation Pacific Blue Cross. We will confirm the coverage and add it to your plan before you visit the pharmacy.

Step 3

PharmaCare notifies your doctor of their decision by fax. You can request a copy of this decision document from your doctor or by calling PharmaCare directly (see Step 1 for phone numbers).

*Some doctors have automatic Special Authority privileges and are not required to submit a form.