

COST AND COVERAGE ESTIMATES FOR LESS VS. MORE SUSTAINABLE ADULT ASTHMA THERAPIES

Coverage as of March 2022. All costs based on Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary & excludes dispensing fee as of July 2022. Cost may vary in other provinces/territories. Adapted from resource developed by Jessica Visentin, Pharmacist at South East Toronto Family Health Team.

Less sustainable

More sustainable

Reliever Therapy

Ventolin pMDI (salbutamol) 200 doses
100-200 mcg QID PRN (max 800 mcg/day)
Covered in all of Canada ✓
100mcg: ~\$5/\$6

Symbicort Turbuhaler (budesonide/formoterol) 120 doses
1-2 inh QID PRN (max 6 inh at a time and 8 inh/day) *
Covered in MB, **SA** in BC, AB, NB, PE, NL, **EDS** in SK, EM in NS, YT, QC, **LU** for NIHB, **LU 330** in ON
100/6:~\$70 // 200/6:~90

Bricanyl Turbuhaler (terbutaline) 100 doses
0.5 - 1.0 mg QID PRN (max 3mg/day)
Covered in all of Canada ✓
0.5 mg: ~\$9

Maintenance Therapy

ICS

Qvar pMDI (beclomethasone) 200 doses
100-400 mcg BID (max 800 mcg/day)
Covered in all of Canada ✓
50mcg: ~\$40 // 100mcg: ~\$75

Flovent pMDI (fluticasone propionate) 120 doses
125-1000 mcg BID (max 2000 mcg/day)
Covered in all of Canada ✓
125mcg: ~\$50 // 250 mcg: ~\$100

Alvesco pMDI (ciclesonide) 120 doses
100-400 mcg BID (max 800 mcg/day)
Covered in all of Canada ✓
100mcg: ~\$50 // 200 mcg: ~\$80

***LCA* Arnuity Ellipta (fluticasone furoate) 30 doses**
100-200 mcg daily (max 200 mcg/day)
Covered in all of Canada ✓
100mcg: ~\$45 // 200 mcg: ~\$85

Pulmicort Turbuhaler (budesonide) 200 doses
200-1200 mcg BID (max 2400 mcg/day)
Covered in all of Canada ✓
100mcg: ~\$35 // 200 mcg: ~\$20 // 400 mcg: ~\$100

Flovent Diskus (fluticasone propionate) 60 doses
100-1000 mcg BID (max 2000 mcg/day)
100 mcg covered except in AB, MB, ON, 250mcg covered (**SA** in AB), 500mcg covered in all of Canada
250mcg: ~\$50 // 500mcg: ~\$75

ICS/LABA

Advair pMDI (fluticasone propionate/salmeterol) 60 doses
1-2 inh BID (max 4 inh/day)*
Covered in MB, **SA** in BC, AB, NB, PE, NL, **EDS** in SK, **EM** in NS, YT, QC, **LU** for NIHB, **LU 330** in ON
125/25: ~\$115 // 250/25: ~\$160

Zenhale pMDI (mometasone/formoterol) 120 doses
1-2 inh BID (max 4 inh/day) *
Covered in MB, **SA** in BC, AB, NB, PE, NL, **EDS** in SK, **EM** in NS, YT, QC, **LU** for NIHB, **LU 330** in ON, not covered in AB
100/5: ~\$110 // 200/5: ~\$130

Advair Diskus (fluticasone propionate/salmeterol) 60 doses
100-200 mcg daily (max 200 mcg/day)
Covered in MB, **SA** in BC, AB, NB, PE, NL, **EDS** in SK, **EM** in NS, YT, QC, **LU** for NIHB, **LU 330** in ON
100/50: ~\$95 // 250/50: ~\$115 // 500/50: ~\$160

Symbicort Turbuhaler (budesonide/formoterol) 120 doses
1-2 inh QID PRN (max 6 inh at a time and 8 inh/day) *
Covered in MB, **SA** in BC, AB, NB, PE, NL, **EDS** in SK, EM in NS, YT, QC, **LU** for NIHB, **LU 330** in ON
100/6:~\$70 // 200/6:~90

***LCA* Breo Ellipta (fluticasone furoate/vilanterol) 30 doses**
1 inh daily (max 1 inh/day) *
Covered in MB, **SA** in BC, AB, NB, PE, NL, **EDS** in SK, **EM** in NS, YT, QC, **LU** for NIHB, **LU 330** in ON
100/25 :~\$95 // 200/25: ~\$145

SA - special authorization; EDS - exception drug status; EM - exception medication; LU - limited use; NIHB - non-insured health benefits

*Dosing for ICS/LABA inhalers is denoted as inhalations/day for ease of interpretation since there are multiple active ingredients. Max doses are determined based on LABA content.

LCA denotes the **lowest cost alternative** within the group based on monthly cost (this accounts for the number of doses in each inhaler and the maximum daily dose).

This resource does not reflect all available medications and does not include all information. Read product monographs before prescribing.

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