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Pharmacare update in British Columbia

The Government of Canada and British Columbia recently announced their [bilateral pharmaceutical agreement](#) effective March 1, 2026. This means British Columbia will become the universal, single payer for certain prescription contraceptives, menopausal hormone therapy and diabetes medications for eligible residents.

What you need to know:

The province will now pay for full benefit drugs covered under the national pharmacare program.

For **limited coverage drugs** that will now be covered under the program, we will provide a one-time grace period of 90 days effective March 1, 2026. Meaning your clients that are already taking a limited coverage drug with an active RBC Insurance® claim will not experience any gaps in coverage. After the 90-day period, the province will cover the drug if the plan member meets the criteria.

If a plan member does not meet the criteria to be covered by pharmacare, their claim will be subject to their existing RBC Insurance coverage plan. This includes any Limited Coverage Agreement (LCA) drugs. Low-cost alternative (LCA) pricing may also apply.

Next steps:

We have updated our systems to provide your clients with a 90-day grace period. Pharmacists within the province will receive a Pharmacy Update explaining what to expect within their adjudication systems for both new and existing claimants on those dates.

We will share this information with your clients via the [attached communication](#) on March 2, 2026.

Resources:

- [Diabetes drugs covered under the pharmacare program](#)
- [Menopausal Hormone Replacement Therapy covered under the pharmacare program](#)
- [Contraceptives covered under the pharmacare program](#)
- [Limited Coverage Drugs](#)

Questions?

If you have further questions about how RBC Insurance group benefits can help your clients, please contact your local Group Sales Consultant at 1-855-264-2174.