



# NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS (NIHB)

NIHB is a national health benefit program that provides health coverage for eligible First Nations and Inuit people residing in Canada. The aim of the program is to supplement a recipient's provincial or territorial health benefits by increasing access to health-care services and reducing the cost of dental and pharmaceutical services.

## HOW TO ACCESS: NIHB Drug Benefit List 2010

**For Health Provider information and forms go to:** Health Canada's site for First Nations, Inuit and Aboriginal Health

**Website:** <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/provide-fournir/index-eng.php>

**Internet Search Keywords:** NIHB Drug Benefit List 2010

## PRESCRIPTIONS PROVIDE MEDICATION AND LIMITED MEDICAL DEVICES TO:

- Registered First Nations
- Recognized Inuit

## THREE CATEGORIES: (OPEN, LIMITED USE & EXCEPTION)

Open benefits: No criteria or pre-approval required ..... **OPEN**

Limited use benefits: Certain criteria as to dosage/frequency; no pre-approval required. .... **L/NA**

Criteria/ pre-approval required..... **L/A**

Exception: ..... **Case by case**

## GENERAL INFO:

- Prescriptions funded for a maximum 100 days
- Maximum dispensing fee is 100 days, minimum is 28 days. (exceptions; dosage change, prn use, antidepressants, antipsychotics, opioids, methadone).
- No substitution; NIHB pays for lowest cost drug unless client has an adverse reaction to the lower cost/usual drug. Prescriber needs to complete **"Report of suspected adverse reaction due to health products marketed in Canada"** Health Canada form
- Requests for approval for limited drugs are made through the **Drug Exception Centre**  
**English: 1-800-580-0950**  
**French: 1-800-281-5027**  
**FAX: 1-877-789-4379**



Aboriginal Health Initiative is administered by:  
**THE SOCIETY OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS OF CANADA**

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## **THE FOLLOWING LIST IS LIMITED TO DRUGS COMMONLY USED BY OB/GYN, FOR FULL LIST AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE NIHB WEBSITE**

**REMINDER:** NIHB covers a wide range of services and pharmaceuticals. For example, NIHB covers maternal health needs such as prenatal vitamins and folic acid. However, in order for Aboriginal people to access any of these items, they must first have a prescription.

**When treating patients with NIHB coverage always write a prescription even if what you are prescribing is available over the counter**

### **VITAMINS AND MINERALS:**

- Pre/postnatal (L/NA for women 12-50 years old)  
Pediatric (L/NA up to 6 years old)
- Vitamin D (OPEN), Folic Acid 1 & 5 mg (OPEN)
- Calcium, Iron (injectable and oral) (OPEN) only certain types of injectables are OPEN

### **CONTRACEPTION:**

- Non-hormonal; condoms, copper IUCD, diaphragm (OPEN)
- Hormonal; most OCP, LNG-IUS (Mirena), Progestin-only pill, Plan B (OPEN), IM medroxyprogesterone

### **ANTI-INFECTIVE AGENTS:**

- Antibiotics; all commonly used for OB/GYN (OPEN)
- Levofloxacin (L/NA), minocycline (L/A)
- Antifungals including azoles, anti-retrovirals, anti-herpes, (OPEN) some antiretrovirals are limited access.
- Topical: antifungals, podophyllin (OPEN)

### **GYNECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS:**

- Hormone replacement therapy; tablets, vaginal preparations, patch (OPEN)
- Androgens; testosterone, danazol (OPEN) some testosterone preps are exception
- Most topical and oral glucocorticoids (OPEN)
- Osteoporosis; etidronate (OPEN), alendronate (L/A)
- GU; PNS stimulator (OPEN), first line relaxants such as oxybutynin immediate release (OPEN), except L/A tolterodine, solifenacin, tropsium
- Gonadatropin; Synarel nasal solution (OPEN)
- Progesterone; medroxyprogesterone IM and oral (OB)
- NSAIDS; all (OPEN) except celecoxib (L/A)
- Bromocriptine (OPEN)
- Misoprostol (OPEN)
- Tranexamic acid (Cyklokapron) (OPEN)

### **GASTROINTESTINAL:**

- Most antiemetics, including Diclectin (OPEN)
- Anti-constipation; psyllium hydrophilic, docusate, glycerin suppositories, lactulose, enemas (OPEN)
- H<sub>2</sub> antagonists (OPEN)
- Metoclopramide (OPEN)
- Ursodiol (OPEN)
- PPIs; check individual drug, most are limited (L/A and L/NA)

### **ANALGESICS:**

- ASA, acetaminophen, NSAIDs (OPEN)
- Opioids; morphine (OPEN), oxycodone (OPEN + L/NA) & hydromorphone (OPEN)
- codeine, fentanyl (L/A), meperidine (L/NA), acetaminophen and codeine (OB), acetaminophen and oxycodone (OPEN)

### **MEDICAL CONDITIONS:**

- Antihypertensives and cardiac medications; all usual cardiovascular drugs used in pregnancy and gynecology, including spironolactone (OPEN)
- Asthma; all most commonly used medications (OPEN) salmeterol inhaler (L/A) and steroid inhalers (OPEN)
- Anticoagulants; unfractionated heparin, LMWH, warfarin (OPEN)
- Antiseizure medications; all (OPEN) except levetiracetam (L/A)
- Thyroid: all for hyper and hypothyroidism (OPEN)
- Diabetes; all medications and the majority of insulins (OPEN) except pioglitazone and rosiglitazone (L/A)  
**All glucose testing materials, syringes, needles, alcohol wipes, insulin pumps (exception)**

### **PSYCHIATRIC MEDICATIONS:**

- Antidepressants; all (OPEN) except duloxetine (L/A)
- Bupropion (L/A) (only Zyban is approved for smoking cessation) (L/NA)
- Antipsychotics; all (OPEN) except ziprasidone (L/A)
- Anxiolytics; all (OPEN)

We want to hear from you: If you have questions/or feedback about the pamphlet, contact us at [Aboriginalhealth@sogc.com](mailto:Aboriginalhealth@sogc.com)