

# Provincial Health Plan Summary

## Province of Alberta

These highlights from the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan are for general reference only and are subject to change, corrections and updates. Other government programs may also be available. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of this information.

For more information on the latest coverage details, please contact:

**Alberta Health and Wellness**  
**Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan**  
**P. O. Box 1360, Station Main**  
**Edmonton, AB T5J 2N3**

**In Edmonton phone: (780) 427-1432**

**In Calgary phone: (403) 297-6411**

**Toll free from anywhere in Alberta phone: 310-0000, then dial (780) 427-1432**

**711 for TDD for the Hearing Impaired**

**Web site: [www.health.gov.ab.ca](http://www.health.gov.ab.ca)**

### Prescription Drugs

- ❖ Some coverage for seniors through Alberta Blue Cross. Eligible seniors pay 30% of the cost of prescription drugs, up to a \$25 maximum per prescription or refill. Residents under age 65 can join the Alberta Blue Cross Non-Group Plan by paying premiums. Only prescription drugs listed in the Alberta Health and Wellness Drug Benefit List are covered.

### Ambulance

- ❖ **NO COVERAGE** for ground ambulance services, with the following exceptions:
  - Limited coverage for seniors and widows through Alberta Blue Cross.
  - Hospital-to-hospital transfers as provided through Regional Health Authorities.

### Dental Benefits

- ❖ **NO COVERAGE** for routine dental care.
- ❖ Coverage for specified oral surgical procedures performed by dental surgeons.
- ❖ Limited dental coverage, under the Extended Health Benefits (EHB) Program, for claimants ages 65 and older, as well as recipients of the Alberta Widows' Pension, including a spouse and eligible dependants.

### Visioncare

- ❖ **NO COVERAGE** for routine eye exams for residents ages 19 to 64.
- ❖ Coverage for one routine eye exam annually for residents ages 18 and under or 65 and older.
- ❖ Coverage for diagnosis and treatment of eye disease and injuries.
- ❖ Limited coverage for glasses, under the EHB Program, for claimants ages 65 or older or who are recipients of the Alberta Widows' Pension, including a spouse and eligible dependants.

## Hospital

- ❖ Coverage for standard ward rooms only.

## Nursing Benefits and Home Care

- ❖ Some coverage for residents of continuing care centres (nursing homes and auxiliary hospitals). Residents are responsible for paying accommodation charges ranging from \$24.75 to \$28.60 per day.
- ❖ Some coverage for home care services to assist independent living for eligible persons.

## Paramedicals

- ❖ **NO COVERAGE** for Services provided by massage therapists or naturopaths.
- ❖ Chiropractic coverage equalling \$12.66 per visit and \$20.95 per X-ray, to a maximum of \$200 per person, per yearly benefit period.
- ❖ Coverage for some physiotherapy services through the Community Rehabilitation Program administered by the Regional Health Authorities. Persons are assessed according to need and assigned a priority rating using a scale of 3 to 15. Those assigned a priority of 7 or higher are eligible for services through the program.
- ❖ Coverage for podiatric services and appliances, paid for under an approved schedule of fees with a yearly benefit period limit of \$250 per person.
- ❖ Coverage for medically required services provided by osteopaths covered under an approved schedule of fees.
- ❖ Private insurers are not allowed to pay benefits for services provided by some paramedical practitioners until the government's yearly benefit maximum has been reached.

## Hearing Aids and Medical Supplies

- ❖ Limited coverage under the Alberta Aids to Daily Living Program for disabled, chronically ill or terminally ill claimants. Eligible residents pay 25% of the cost of benefits to a maximum of \$500 per family, per benefit year.

## Accidental Death and Dismemberment

- ❖ **NO COVERAGE.**

## Out of Country

- ❖ **NO COVERAGE** for air or ground ambulance outside of Alberta.
- ❖ Coverage for the services of physicians out of Canada, up to Alberta rates only.
- ❖ Coverage of up to \$100 per day for in-patient hospital services outside Canada.