

BIOLOGICS

AND

BIOSIMILARS

Biologics are complex, large molecule medications developed in living cells through unique and intricate processes.



Biosimilars are highly similar copies of reference biologics.

Biologics cannot be identically made like common small-molecule medications (brand name and their generics).



SAFETY



Health Canada approves biosimilars that demonstrate no clinically meaningful differences in safety and efficacy to its reference biologic.

ALBERTA'S BIOSIMILAR INITIATIVE

Alberta's public drug plans are changing. If you are diagnosed with any of the following conditions and are currently treated with an originator biologic, you will be transferred to its biosimilar by **January 15, 2021**.

Ankylosing Spondylitis
Crohn's Disease
Diabetes (Type 1 and 2)
Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (GPA)
Microscopic Polyangiitis (MPA)

Multiple Sclerosis
Neutropenia
Plaque Psoriasis
Psoriatic Arthritis
Rheumatoid Arthritis
Ulcerative Colitis

This program **does not** apply to children (under 18 years old) and pregnant women.





If you have medical concerns about this transfer, contact your health care team.

They can request exceptional coverage so you can stay on the originator biologic.



HEALTH COALITION
OF ALBERTA

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