



## Thrombosis Program

Vancouver Coastal Health, University of British Columbia

### How to Pay for Your Low Molecular Weight Heparin

You have been prescribed a medication called low molecular weight heparin (dalteparin, tinzaparin or enoxaparin). This medication is expensive. Your physician has requested "Special Authority" from PharmaCare to cover the cost of the medication but you are still responsible for paying until coverage begins.

There are two ways to get help to pay for your low molecular weight heparin:

1. If you have extended health benefits, your insurer will most likely cover some or all of the cost. You should contact your insurance provider for details. Your pharmacist might also be able to help you. If your extended health benefits provider needs a copy of the PharmaCare Special Authority, please request this through PharmaCare by calling 604-683-7151 or 1-800-663-7100.
2. If you have registered for Fair PharmaCare, the drug cost will be partly or completely covered by the BC government once you have reached the deductible for the current calendar year. If you have not registered for Fair PharmaCare, then you should do so as soon as possible. Some helpful information is provided below.

### What is Fair PharmaCare?

Fair PharmaCare is the provincial medication assistance plan in BC. It is available to all BC residents who are enrolled with the Medical Services Plan. The coverage is based on the net income of your family (you, your spouse and any dependent children). Families with lower incomes receive more assistance than families with higher incomes. You must register for Fair PharmaCare to get assistance.

If you or your spouse was born in 1939 or earlier, you may qualify for enhanced Fair PharmaCare assistance.

There is no charge for registration and there are no premiums to pay.

Details of registration, coverage, how it works, and answers to frequently asked questions are available online at: <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/plani/planiindex.html>



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### How do I register for Fair PharmaCare?

To register your family with Fair PharmaCare, you will need:

For all family members:

- Personal Health Number (found on your BC Services Card/CareCard)
- Birth dates

For you and your spouse:

- Social Insurance numbers
- Your income tax return from two years ago

You should register immediately to get the most benefit.

Online registration is available at <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/fpcreg.html>.

To register by phone, call Health Insurance BC. From Vancouver, call 604-683-7151. From the rest of BC, call toll-free 1-800-663-7100.

### Does Fair PharmaCare cover all of the cost of the drug once I register?

No. When the coverage starts depends on your family's net income from 2 years ago. Fair PharmaCare uses your income tax data to calculate your deductible. Similar to car insurance, the deductible is the amount that you have to pay for your full prescription costs BEFORE PharmaCare starts to assist you with drug cost for the rest of the year. Once you reach your deductible, PharmaCare will pay 70% of your family's cost for the rest of the year. Once you reach your family maximum, then PharmaCare covers 100% of your eligible drug costs for the rest of the year. The PharmaCare deductible resets every January.

You can get an estimate of your levels of coverage under PharmaCare using the online calculator: <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/plani/calculator/calculator.html>

### How can the Thrombosis Clinic help?

The Thrombosis Clinic cannot help you with Fair PharmaCare registration or find out your deductible because this is your confidential information. If you have problems covering the cost of your low molecular weight heparin, please call your physician at the Thrombosis Clinic at 604-675-2481.