

October 24, 2024

Tiered Plan with Dynamic Therapeutic Formulary (DTF) Drugs to be removed from the DTF

Changes go into effect on March 1st, 2025

Your drug plan gives you two levels of prescription drug coverage—Tier 1 and Tier 2. Tier 1 represents the DTF and Tier 2 represents all other drugs covered under your plan that are not listed on the DTF. Every month, a team of pharmacists at Express Scripts Canada updates the DTF with new drugs, and twice a year, they conduct a full review to ensure that the drugs listed are still the most clinically-effective and least expensive alternatives.

Below is an explanation of the changes that will go into effect on March 1st, 2025. Some drugs will be added and others removed. Please note that drugs that are going to be removed from the Tier 1 DTF may be covered under Tier 2 of your plan.

If a drug that you or one of your dependents is taking has been removed from the DTF, you should talk to your doctor about alternatives that are covered by the DTF if you want to receive the same reimbursement percentage.

To consult the complete list of DTF drugs or the list of suggested alternatives to non-DTF drugs, go to desjardinslifeinsurance.com/DTF. Please note that the lists will only reflect the above changes as of the effective date.

Drug class reviewed	Drug(s) to be removed *	Drug(s) remaining/added	Reason for recommendation
Acromegaly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Somatuline Autogel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandostatin, Sandostatin LAR 	SOMATULINE AUTOGEL has a comparable efficacy to SANDOSTATIN LAR, however double the annual cost.
Blood disorders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lovenox 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Venofer, iron sucrose 	<p>LOVENOX has more cost-effective biosimilar alternatives, such as NOROMBY, REDESCA, INCLUNOX, ELONOX</p> <p>This move aligns with the biosimilar policies as more provinces are adding LOVENOX to their biosimilar transition programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adding iron sucrose as a cost-effective IV iron preparation. IV iron preparations are the preferred choice of treatment of iron deficiency anemia for patients with comorbidities warranting IV iron preparations such as hemodialysis patients and patients with advanced chronic kidney disease (CKD)
Diabetes - antihyperglyemics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rosiglitazone 		The use of rosiglitazone has fallen out of favor in diabetes treatment following a safety alert concerning a possible increased risk of ischemic cardiovascular events in 2007. Although genericized for years, its cost continues to be comparable to newer, brand name alternatives available.

* Drugs to be removed may be covered under Tier 2 of your plan.