Drug Plan and Extended Benefits
Saskatchewan Ministry of Health

Pharmacy Information
Bulletin No. 804
June 10, 2022

TIXAGEVIMAB/CILGAVIMAB (EVUSHELD™) FOR THE PREVENTION OF COVID-19

On June 13, 2022, Evusheld™ is available in Saskatchewan for pre-exposure prophylaxis of COVID-19 in adults and adolescents (12 years of age or older), weighing at least 40 kg, who have NOT had a known recent exposure to an individual affected with COVID-19 and:

- Who are immunocompromised and are unlikely to mount an adequate immune response to vaccination; OR
- For whom COVID-19 vaccination is not recommended.

Evusheld™ is a one-time treatment, which is administered by a qualified healthcare provider as two **ventrogluteal** intramuscular (IM) injections.

The Saskatchewan Health Authority's Therapeutics Expert Group is not recommending Evusheld's™ use at this time. However, if Evusheld™ is being considered for use, it should be on a case-by-case basis where the potential benefit is expected to outweigh any potential risk.

In Saskatchewan, the case-by-case use of Evusheld™ should be limited to patients who:

- Are severely immunocompromised. This includes:
  - Solid organ transplant recipients;
  - Individuals with malignant hematologic conditions (e.g., leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma), who have received active treatment within the last year with chemotherapy, targeted therapies including CAR—T, and immunotherapy).
  - Individuals who have received a bone marrow or stem cell transplant within the last 2 years.
  - Individuals who are taking immunosuppressant medications for graft vs. host disease (GVHD),
  - Patients who have taken anti-CD20 agents or B-cell depleting agents (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab, obinotuzimab, blinatumomab, inotuzumab, ibrutinib, etc.) within the last 6 months.
  - Individuals with significant primary immunodeficiency affecting T-cells, immune dysregulation or type 1 interferon defects;

AND

- Have additional risk factors or exceptional circumstances that correlate with an extremely high risk of poor outcomes from COVID-19 (i.e., unable to receive COVID-19 vaccination, unable to complete COVID-19 vaccination course, treatment of COVID-19 is contraindicated, or severe GVHD). Other risk factors may exist and should be considered on a case-by-case basis as per the prescribing clinician's discretion.

IN ADDITION,

- The patient must **NOT** have known cardiovascular disease (e.g., coronary artery disease, history of myocardial infarction or stroke, unstable angina, heart failure, congenital heart disease, or arrhythmias). Other risk factors for cardiovascular disease should also be considered (e.g., hyperlipidemia, hypertension).

Note: It is NOT recommended that Evusheld™ be administered to patients who are severely compromised without additional risk factors for hospitalization from COVID-19.

See medSask Evusheld™ Clinical Practice Guidelines for more information on eligibility, dosing, monitoring, and side effects: https://medsask.usask.ca/covid-19-info/evusheld-hcp.php

Evusheld™ Distribution:

- Evusheld™ is currently available through McKesson, product #172193.
- Evusheld™ requires refrigeration storage (2°C - 8°C) and so appropriate cold chain must be maintained.

Evusheld™ Dispensing:

- As there are no time restrictions for administration, keeping Evusheld™ in stock is not required and should only be ordered upon receipt of a prescription from a prescriber.
- As with other COVID-19 therapeutics (e.g., Paxlovid™), pharmacies will be reimbursed $20.00 for distributing (or dispensing) Evusheld™ to eligible Saskatchewan residents.
- Billing instructions can be found in Appendix I.

No incentives shall be provided by the Proprietor or an agent on behalf of the Proprietor to any other person in relation to the provision of Evusheld™.

Evusheld™ Administration:

- Evusheld™ is administered via two ventrogluteal IM injections. Administration should be coordinated between the pharmacy, patient, and prescriber.
- Though administration at the prescriber's office is recommended, community pharmacists with Advanced Methods Certification can administer Evusheld™ to the patient.
    - Additional training and competencies (e.g., ventrogluteal landmarking) are required, and other considerations need to be addressed before administering ventrogluteal injections (e.g., private room with examination table for administration, disposable gowns or sheets, knowledge and competence with respect to sensitive exams/procedures, ensuring informed consent for sensitive exams/procedures, chaperone policy in place to protect the pharmacist and patient, etc.).
    - More information on sensitive exams/procedures can be found on the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan's website: https://www.cps.sk.ca/imis/CPSS/CPSS/Doctalk/Addressing_Quality_of_Care/QoC_Articles/QoC08-01-01Physicians_and_Sensitive_Exams.aspx
- Should pharmacies choose to provide the injection rather than facilitating administration with the patient and prescriber, an associated administration fee (i.e., $13.00/dose) is available through the Injection Administration Program (IAP).
    - Billing instructions will be provided upon request. Please email DPEBimmunizations@health.gov.sk.ca for instructions.
    - The cost for ancillary supplies is included in the IAP fee, and supplies will not be provided.
- More details on administration can be found in the medSask Evusheld™ Clinical Practice Guidelines: https://medsask.usask.ca/covid-19-info/evusheld-hcp.php
- Also see Administration of Drugs by Injection and Other Routes Guidelines and the Vaccine Storage, Handling and Transport Guidelines for the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals standards of practice and other requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact the Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch (DPEBB) at DPEBimmunizations@health.gov.sk.ca.

Thank you for your support as we continue to navigate through COVID-19.

Appendix I: Evusheld™ Billing Procedure

1. Dispense Evusheld™ and submit the drug claim using the Evusheld™ DIN (02526271) with a $20.00 fee in the acquisition cost (AC) field.
2. The Evusheld™ drug claim must be **submitted for adjudication** to DPEBB as **a single transaction** and must be on a real-time basis.
3. Ensure the Evusheld™ prescription claim is recorded onto the patient's Pharmaceutical Information Program (PIP) profile.

- The provincial supply of Evusheld™ is publicly-funded and the medication must be provided to eligible patients at no charge. The DPEBB pays 100% of the $20.00 fee to the pharmacy.
- Ensure the following fields are completed as follows:

  - **PATIENT IDENTIFIER** = nine-digit Health Services Number (HSN)
  - **DISPENSING DATE** = date of activity (e.g., May 19, 2022)
  - **RX NUMBER** = enter the sequential RX#
  - **HEALTH PROVIDER ORGANIZATION ID** = SK
  - **HEALTH PROVIDER ID** **=** Physician/Nurse Practitioner (SPR ID #)
  - **PHARMACIST ORGANIZATION ID** = SK
  - **PHARMACIST ID** = Pharmacist ID number (e.g., D1234)
  - **DIN** = 02526271
  - **COMPOUNDING FEE (CF)** = $0.00
  - **COMPOUND NAME** = blank
  - **QUANTITY (QTY)** = 1
  - **DAYS SUPPLY** = 1
  - **ACQUISITION COST (AC)** = $20.00
  - **DISPENSING FEE (DF)** = $0.00
  - **MARKUP** = 00 / 00 / 00
  - **TOTAL RX COST** = $20.00
  - **PATIENT PAID** = $0.00
  - **ADJUDICATION FLAG** = Y

Please note:

- DPEBB will not accept paper claims.
- If you are unable to submit the record of the Evusheld™ drug claim electronically through your Practice Management System, please use the secure DPEBB web page by logging on to https://www.drugplan.health.gov.sk.ca.
- If you are not sure how to install the WEB certificate, please contact your software vendor.