



## Vedolizumab Startup Sheet

ENTYVIO®

### Assistance with Coverage

**Alberta Health Non-Group Coverage** is a government-assisted program that helps people who do not have benefits obtain medication and works with existing insurance.

Information is available from Alberta Health government website

You can get an application online at <https://cfr.forms.gov.ab.ca/form/ahc201.pdf>

You will be required to pay a monthly premium. They will not however cover the cost of the drug without special authorization completed by your gastroenterologist.

There is a 3+ month waiting period for any coverage so send your application ASAP.

**Our IBD nurses will:**

1. Enroll you in the free patient support program, OnePath®
2. Provide you with information on the new medication, dosing frequency and cost of the medication
3. Provide you with pre-testing requisitions for: Chest x-ray, TB skin Tests, bloodwork, and FCP

*\*If you are switching from another biologic you may not require pre-testing.\**

**OnePath® will:**

1. Contact you once your referral is received, ask questions about current and previous medications, current symptoms and insurance coverage.
2. Complete the orders for your infusion and send the prescriptions ordered by your physician to the infusion clinic and the pharmacy of your choice.
3. Arrange your 1st infusion once testing and approval is complete.
4. Arrange all infusions including the dates for maintenance infusions; these can be adjusted within a few days to accommodate your schedule.
5. Complete renewals of prescriptions and special authorizations as needed. You must contact OnePath® if there is a problem with your prescription or if there is a problem or change in insurance.

### Private Coverage

Call your individual private benefit provider and find out if your benefits will cover the medication.

BE SURE TO ASK IF THERE IS A CAP ON THE AMOUNT OF COVERAGE YOU CAN GET PER YEAR.

You may also need to apply for Alberta Health Non-Group for additional coverage.

**OnePath®** is a free Patient Support program that works independently to assist in the coordination of insurance and arranging the booking of Entyvio infusions. They will help you ensure that you have adequate insurance to cover the costs.

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

You can contact [OnePath®](#)

You can reach the IBD nurse at 780-492-8691, ext. 9.

### Dosing Schedule

- Week 0 (Day 1): Entyvio 300 mg infusion
- Week 2: Entyvio 300 mg infusion
- Week 6: first subcutaneous injection or 3rd infusion

### Maintenance:

- IV every 8 weeks beginning at Week 14
- Sub-cutaneous injection every 2 weeks starting week 6

### Follow-up

- Complete FCP prior to day 1 infusion
- Complete FCP and drug level testing prior to 1st maintenance dose at week 14 infusion
- Appointment with IBD clinic 4-5 months after starting medication

### While awaiting coverage

Your IBD physician/nurse will give you requisitions for a chest X-ray, blood work, FCP and instructions for a TB skin test. You will need to complete ALL testing prior to starting Entyvio. (\* If you are switching from another biologic you may not require pre-testing.\*) A list of vaccinations, including childhood immunizations which can be obtained either through your Family Physician or [Public Health Centres](#).

### Ready to Start

Your prescription will be ordered from the pharmacy of your choice. You need to pick up your medication prior to your first infusion. It will need to be kept refrigerated. Yourvantage® will set up your loading doses at **Week 0** – baseline, **Week 2** – 2 weeks after start **Week 6** – 6 weeks after start.

**After your loading doses you will be put on a maintenance dose of IV infusion every 8 weeks or injections every 2 week.**

**It is important that you have a scheduled follow –up appointment with your gastroenterologist 16 weeks after starting therapy**

### What to bring

Bring something to do for a couple of hours, books, magazines, music, movie DVD. You may be in a room with other people, so if you choose to listen to music or watch a movie please bring headphones. Because everyone has a possibility of being sensitive to a new medication, **your infusion will take approximately 1 hour**. Subsequent visits may be shorter if you have no reaction.

IBD Health Practitioner Checklist		Family Physician Checklist	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chest X-ray	<input type="checkbox"/>	Routine breast exam
<input type="checkbox"/>	TB Skin Test – book appt through a <a href="#">Public Health Center</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pap smear for HPV & HPV vaccine
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hepatitis & HIV Serology & EBV	<input type="checkbox"/>	Skin exam for atypical moles (dermatologist consult if relevant)
<input type="checkbox"/>	FCP prior to day one and prior to 14-week infusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vaccinations to be up-to-date
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Annual dental exam

**\*\* NO LIVE VACCINES if starting therapy ASAP (includes MMR and Yellow Fever)\*\***