

Plan Design 2023: Drug Changes Q&A

When will ASEBP make these changes?

These changes take effect on January 1, 2023.

How will these changes affect members' drug coverage?

Members will continue receiving the same percentage of drug coverage shown in their plan details found under Coverage on [My ASEBP](#) or on their ASEBP ID card on the [My ASEBP Mobile App](#) under Extended Health Care. Prescription drugs that are covered today will continue to be covered by ASEBP; however, starting January 1, 2023, brand-name drugs that have a generic version will be covered up to the cost of the generic alternative drug.

Will my plan cover brand-name prescription drugs if a generic version is available?

Yes, but if you choose to fill the prescription for the brand-name drug, which is not the generic drug alternative, you will be responsible for paying the cost difference between the brand-name drug and the generic alternative. If you have [Spending Account](#) coverage, these out-of-pocket expenses may be eligible. If no generic alternative exists, ASEBP will continue to provide coverage for the cost of the brand-name drug based on the percentage of coverage of a member's plan.

Why is ASEBP using Alberta Blue Cross' drug list for generic and brand-name prescription drugs?

This change will simplify the claims process for [special authorization drugs](#) for covered members, their dependents, and health care providers, lower processing times, and allow members to view decisions sooner in their My ASEBP accounts.

Why is ASEBP changing from Least Cost Alternative pricing to generic alternative pricing?

This will allow members to receive generic drugs that are similar to, and as effective as, brand-name drugs but at a lower cost. When the generic alternative is selected, this may reduce members' out-of-pocket expenses.

Will my existing Enhanced Special Authorization continue after January 1?

Yes. ASEBP will honour active Enhanced Special Authorizations through future renewal cycles with the Alberta Blue Cross if there is no change in the drug or dosage prescribed. If a change in the drug or dosage is requested, it will be handled as a new request, subject to Alberta Blue Cross criteria.