

# Clinical Trials Policy Provider Fact Sheet

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## How do I explain cancer drug funding to my patient?

- Explain to your patient that not all cancer drugs are funded by the province. However, the results from clinical trials and the cost effectiveness of new drugs determine whether they will be publicly funded in the province.
- More information on how cancer drug funding decisions are made can be found on the Cancer Care Ontario's [Provincial Drug Reimbursement Programs FAQ webpage](#)<sup>i</sup>.
- Review the Clinical Trials Assessment (provided to applicants) or the [Clinical Trials Assessment Table](#)<sup>ii</sup> and inform your patient if any of the cancer drug(s) used in the trial or subsequent to the trial will not be funded by the province or the sponsor. Explore other funding sources with your patient and/or drug access navigator (if applicable).

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## What resources are available to help explain drug funding options subsequent to trial?

- Review Cancer Care Ontario's funding algorithms on potential treatment options subsequent to trial. The funding algorithms are not intended to be a comprehensive list of treatment options but they include all funded oral and injectable drugs and regimens that are commonly used. The funding algorithms are available on the [eClaims Resource Library](#)<sup>iii</sup>.
- Explain to your patient that public funding of cancer drugs may change over time. New cancer drugs may become publicly funded or eligibility criteria may expand. In some cases, cancer drugs may no longer be funded or the eligibility criteria may be limited by new research and evidence.
- Updated assessments on access to publicly funded cancer drugs used within and subsequent to clinical trials will be posted on the [Clinical Trials Assessment Table](#)<sup>ii</sup>. This information may be helpful in discussing treatment options and funding alternatives with your patient.
- Explore treatment and funding options with your patient or provide them with a contact to your centre's drug access navigator (if applicable).

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## What resources are available to my patient about publicly funded cancer drugs?

- Cancer Care Ontario's Systemic Treatment Clinical Trials webpage<sup>ii</sup>
- Cancer Care Ontario's Provincial Drug Reimbursement Programs webpage<sup>iv</sup>
- Cancer Care Ontario's Systemic Treatment-Quality Based Program webpage<sup>v</sup>
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Ontario Drug Benefit Program webpage<sup>vi</sup>
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Exceptional Access Program webpage<sup>vii</sup>
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Limited Use criteria webpage<sup>viii</sup>

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## How do I ensure that my patient has understood?

- Along with understanding the clinical risks and benefits of participating in a clinical trial, it is important that your patient understands the funding implications of participating in a clinical trial, as well as subsequent to the trial. Ask your patient to repeat back their understanding that public funding of cancer drugs may change over time. Also, ask them to repeat back their understanding of their treatment options and which cancer drugs will **not** be covered by the province after participating in the clinical trial.

**Tip:** Ask "How would you explain to your family your various treatment options after trial, including how they will be paid."

<sup>i</sup> <https://www.cancercare.on.ca/toolbox/drugs/candrugsfaq/>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.cancercare.on.ca/toolbox/ClinicalTrials/>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://eclaimscms.cancercare.on.ca/Pages/Policies.aspx?RootFolder=%2FLists%2FPolicies%2FFunding%20Algorithms&FolderCTID=0x0101006D1931727CD0BA4385158C83B78C475E00191B36009AC3194F8EEFE333F-CC1E1D5&View=%7b6890C858-700B-4BFD-9384-C7BAEDD27883%7d>  
(If you do not have access to eClaims, please contact [clinicaltrials@cancercare.on.ca](mailto:clinicaltrials@cancercare.on.ca) who will be able to assist you, alternatively get in touch with your local pharmacist at your hospital)

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.cancercare.on.ca/toolbox/drugs/>

<sup>v</sup> <https://www.cancercare.on.ca/toolbox/drugformulary/stfmregimens/>

<sup>vi</sup> [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/funded\\_drug/fund\\_odbp.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/funded_drug/fund_odbp.aspx)

<sup>vii</sup> [http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/drugs/programs/odb/opdp\\_eap.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/programs/drugs/programs/odb/opdp_eap.aspx)

<sup>viii</sup> [http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/limited\\_use\\_mn.aspx](http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/drugs/limited_use_mn.aspx)