

Biosimilar Medications can Generate Cost Savings and Increase Access to Care across Canada

The Challenge

Biosimilars are medicines that have been proven to be highly similar to another biologic medicine. Despite widespread data on their safety and cost-savings potential, uptake of biosimilars in Canada has been slow, with only an 8% use rate country-wide.

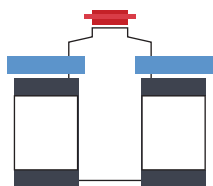


8%

Canada's
biosimilars
use rate

B.C. Takes Action

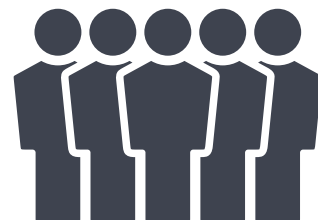
British Columbia's Biosimilars Initiative – a program that is switching patients taking one of three biologic drugs to their biosimilar alternatives – is already generating savings for the healthcare system. Because of the program, B.C. will save nearly \$100 million over the next three years, which is being reinvested into new drug listings and expanded coverage.



**B.C. switches patients
to biosimilars for
3 drugs**



**B.C. savings
2019-2022:
\$96.6 million**



**Cost-savings
reinvested into
expanded coverage**

The Opportunity

Increased uptake of biosimilars will drive healthcare savings across Canada, which could save up to \$1.81 billion over three years from switching to biosimilars.

**Canada-wide savings over three years:
\$1.81 billion**