

# **Notice from the Executive Officer: Funding of aflibercept under the Ontario Drug Benefit Program**

August 29, 2025

Aflivu™ (aflibercept) and Yesafili™ (aflibercept) are approved by Health Canada as biosimilar versions of Eylea® (aflibercept). The funding of these products is being aligned with the funding of other biosimilars under the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Program's new start policy, which requires recipients initiating treatment on a biologic drug to start on a biosimilar. In accordance with the New Start Rule, ODB program recipients who are treatment naïve to Eylea® will only receive coverage for a biosimilar version, provided they meet the applicable Limited Use (LU) criteria for the product.

Biosimilars have similar efficacy and safety as originator biologics and present an opportunity to achieve better value for money for biologic drugs that will help to support the long-term sustainability and accessibility of Ontario's public drug program.

As of the effective date of the August 2025 update to the ODB Formulary/Comparative Drug Index (Formulary), changes to the funding of aflibercept under the ODB Program will be as follows:

Aflivu™ (aflibercept) and Yesafili™ (aflibercept) will be listed on the Formulary as Limited Use (LU) benefits for the treatment of the following indications in accordance with the criteria set out on the Formulary:

- Neovascular (wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
- Retinal vein occlusion - Branch Retinal Vein Occlusion (BRVO) or Central Retinal Vein Occlusion (CRVO)
- Diabetic Macular Edema (DME)

Prescribers should be informed and stay current with official indications for drug products in accordance with Health Canada's approved product monograph.

Details of the LU criteria will also be posted in the August 2025 Formulary update, which can be found on the ministry's website at:

[Formulary / Comparative Drug Index \(CDI\) Edition 43 | Ontario Drug Benefit \(ODB\)](#)

[Formulary / Comparative Drug Index \(CDI\) and Monthly Formulary Updates | ontario.ca](#)

For up-to-date list of eligible ODB funded biosimilars please refer to the [ODB Formulary](#).

Details of the changes to the funding of Eylea® (aflibercept) will also be posted in the August 2025 Formulary update, which can be found on the ministry's website at:

[Formulary / Comparative Drug Index \(CDI\) Edition 43 | Ontario Drug Benefit \(ODB\)](#)  
[Formulary / Comparative Drug Index \(CDI\) and Monthly Formulary Updates | ontario.ca](#)

To further inform healthcare providers and patients, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document for reference purposes is also available.

**Additional information:**

**For pharmacies:** Please call ODB Pharmacy Help Desk at: 1-800-668-6641

**For all other health care providers and the public:**

Please call ServiceOntario, Infoline at 1-866-532-3161 TTY 1-800-387-5559. In Toronto, TTY 416-327-4282.