

Do You or Someone You Know Suffer From Osteoporosis?

The BC government and PharmaCare want to know your opinion

BC PharmaCare, the provincial body that defines eligibility, is undergoing a review of its policies regarding osteoporosis treatment, the first since 2008.

This is your chance to make a difference.

The BC Ministry of Health has created a **survey for patients, caregivers and patient groups** to provide feedback.

This **survey will take about 15–20 minutes**.

It asks questions such as how does osteoporosis affect your daily life; which bisphosphonates, or other osteoporosis medication, have you used and what was your experience; and has PharmaCare coverage or limits on coverage affected your choice of medication and if so, how.

Go to the Your Voice website to take the survey:



Did you know:

- ▷ BC has a **failing grade** when it comes to coverage compared to other Canadian Provinces
- ▷ The government criteria require you to have broken a bone **before** you can **qualify for coverage**
- ▷ BC is the only province where health professionals must fill out a **special authorization** form for any osteoporosis treatment
- ▷ There may be up to a **four-month delay** in dealing with these forms, a delay that could result in **serious problems**, like a **broken bone** or increased anxiety
- ▷ **1 in 3 women and 1 in 5 men** will **suffer a broken bone** during their lifetime
- ▷ After a **hip fracture**:
 - 40% need assistance walking
 - 20% enter long term care
 - 23% die within a year
- ▷ **Fewer than 20%** of fracture patients are diagnosed, have a bone mineral density test, or receive treatment after a fracture

Visit the BC Coalition of Osteoporosis Physicians Website at

bccop.org

The survey is now live, available only from

October 20 to November 17, 2021