

Low Protein Food Funding in Canada

Place	What's covered	How coverage was obtained
Nova Scotia	<p>Formula -All formula for all ages. Adults who live in institutions or group homes have formula funded through institutions budget.</p> <p>Food - Adults who live in institutions or group homes have their low protein foods funded through the institutions' budgets. Low protein foods covered: Baking mixes (Semper, Aproten, DP, Welplan, Unimix only) Wheat starch Crackertoasts, rusks Pastas (Dietary Specialties Lasagna and full Aproten line only) All other food patients must purchase. We have available for sale through our metabolic nutrition centre some non-perishable items such as peanut butter, cheese sauce mix, mac and cheese, broth, cereal, snacks, cookies.</p>	
PEI	<p>Formula - Formula covered for all ages</p> <p>Food - No coverage for any low pro foods although some families may receive assistance with purchasing low pro foods through various assistance programs.</p>	
Quebec	<p>Formula and Food – All formulas and low pro foods are covered by a provincial program for patients with metabolic disorders and supplied through National Food Distribution Centre. Examples of foods provided are basic ingredients for low protein recipes and convenient foods like macaroni and cheese, cookies, chocolate-coated raisins and cranberries etc. The centre carries brands like Abbott labs, Cambrooke, Mead Johnson, Novartis, Aproten, Dietary Specialties, Loprofin, Juvella, Rite-Diet, Kingsmill, SHS, Loprofin, Applied Nutrition, Ener-G. Families order their products through the local clinic, during working days and hours. Supplies are delivered to the local clinic who advise parents to come and pick-up their supplies. The Cambrooke foods are limited to a total expense of \$1500.00 per patient per year. If patient wants to go beyond this amount they can purchase Cambrooke by the usual route and pay National Food Centre by credit card.</p>	<p>Coverage was obtained through an intense "lobbying" effort from the geneticians and other health professionals in genetics about 20 years ago. They stressed the long term importance of diet both from a health and economic point of view - an untreated patient costing a lot more in the long run in various social benefits as a patient on diet.</p>
New Brunswick	<p>Formula - is covered for all ages</p> <p>Foods - Some selected low protein pastas, baking mixes, rusks, wheat starch are covered for all ages.</p>	

Alberta (Edmonton)	Formula and Food – Everything covered 100% (for kids, for adults and adults returning to diet) We don't consider any foods other than chocolate or candies luxuries since it is impossible to meet calorie requirements of patients without low pro foods. Shipping costs covered by family unless patient is severely limited in income.	Will include Cambrooke foods in future (2005) up to a maximum of 1500\$ per year. No taste connections availability
Alberta (Calgary)	Formula and Food – Everything covered 100% (for kids, for adults) -Includes Cambrooke foods (not Taste connections because not yet available)	Used to split payments for low pro foods 50/50 with patients and government. Ended up with too much paperwork, now low pro foods covered 100%
Saskatchewan	Formula - covered for children and adults Foods - No coverage for lo pro foods -low protein foods must be paid for by the parent or by the person themselves if an adult. The foods are purchased through the clinic and their centre covers mailing costs. In one case, a father has been able to arrange full coverage through his company benefits. If a patient or parent is on social assistance, the clinic can assist them in getting an additional allowance or the clinic can bill Social Services for them. If the patient has Treaty status, the Indian Band Council or Federal Dept. of Indian Affairs may cover food costs.	
Ontario	Formula – covered for under 18. Not covered for over 18? Food - Many low pro foods are covered 100% by the Ministry of Health, except for luxury items (e.g. cheese, low pro cereal). - No coverage for patients over 18.	
Manitoba	Formula - formula is covered for both children and adults Food - Just over 1 year ago, they were able to obtain coverage for low protein food for children. There is still no support for low protein foods for adults. The support is being provided through Children's Special Services	The support is being provided through Children's Special Services (provincial government department) whose mandate is to support children with or at risk of neurodevelopmental delay. When their mandate was widened to include those "at risk" they were able to obtain coverage. They are only mandated for children, so this did not help our adults. They provided each family with a case worker who reviewed their needs and have generally set up a billing system so the families can obtain foods directly at no cost. Some of our rural families that order their foods directly as we do not distribute foods from the hospital are paying up front and being reimbursed. We

		<p>calculated the cost of a "typical" diet for a toddler and "typical" diet for a teenager and determined the incremental cost for the low protein diet. Our figures came out to ~ \$180 per month for younger children and \$ 250 per month for teens. The director at Children's Special Services has preferred to deal with each family's needs individually, so these numbers aren't hard and fast, but it gave them some guidelines as to what they might expect the families to use.</p> <p>Our system is a little different seeing that we do not bring in foods from National food Distribution Centre.</p>
Newfoundland	<p>Formula - covered for any child up to the age of 18 with an inborn error of metabolism. -no coverage for over 18?</p> <p>Food - covered for any child up to the age of 18 with an inborn error of metabolism. -no coverage for over 18?</p>	<p>This was established in 1975 by Dr. Davis, a metabolic physician working with this patient population. He made a presentation to the dept. of health. At this time, Newfoundland is struggling to get formula and low pro food covered for patients over the age of 18.</p>
BC	<p>Formula - covered 100% for children and adults through a grant from the BC ministry of health, including previously untreated adults with PKU</p> <p>Food - No low protein food products are covered.</p>	