

## Enoxaparin Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is the difference between Redesca (HP) and Lovenox® (HP)?

Redesca and Lovenox® are both enoxaparin products. Enoxaparin belongs to a class of chemicals called low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) and is used for the treatment and prevention of blood clots. Redesca (enoxaparin) is approved by Health Canada as a biosimilar version of the originator enoxaparin biologic product known as Lovenox®. Redesca (enoxaparin) and Lovenox® (enoxaparin) are manufactured and marketed by different companies.

### 2. What is the funding status of Redesca (enoxaparin)?

Effective with the April 2021 Formulary update (April 30, 2021), Redesca (enoxaparin) will be listed on the Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) Formulary/Comparative Drug Index (Formulary) as a General Benefit.

DIN	Brand Name	Generic Name	Strength & Dosage Form	MFR
02509121	Redesca®	enoxaparin	100mg/mL Inj Sol-3mLVial Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.
02509075	Redesca®	enoxaparin	30mg/0.3mL Pref Syr-0.3mL Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.
02509083	Redesca®	enoxaparin	40mg/0.4mL Pref Syr-0.4mL Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.
02509091	Redesca®	enoxaparin	60mg/0.6mL Pref Syr-0.6mL Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.
02509105	Redesca®	enoxaparin	80mg/0.8mL Pref Syr-0.8mL Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.

<b>DIN</b>	<b>Brand Name</b>	<b>Generic Name</b>	<b>Strength &amp; Dosage Form</b>	<b>MFR</b>
02509148	Redesca HP®	enoxaparin	120mg/0.8mL Pref Syr-0.8mL Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.
02509113	Redesca®	enoxaparin	100mg/mL Pref Syr-1mL Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.
02509156	Redesca HP®	enoxaparin	150mg/mL Pref Syr-1mL Pk	Valeo Pharmac Inc.

**3. What is the funding status of Lovenox (enoxaparin)?**

In view of implementation considerations and ongoing COVID-19 priorities in Ontario, the funding status of Lovenox products on the ODB Formulary and under the Exceptional Access Program (EAP) will remain unchanged at this time. Further changes to the funding status of Lovenox products will be announced at a later date.

**4. What is the rationale behind changing the funding status for enoxaparin?**

Redesca (enoxaparin) was approved by Health Canada as a biosimilar version of enoxaparin. The originator version of enoxaparin is Lovenox®. Biosimilars are not identical to originator biologics. However, Health Canada conducts rigorous testing to ensure that biosimilars have a highly similar structure, are equally as safe, and have the same therapeutic effect as an originator biologic. Biosimilars also 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 programs.

**5. How will these changes impact patients?**

As of the April 2021 Formulary Update, ODB eligible patients wishing to receive treatment with enoxaparin therapy may access Redesca funded through the ODB Formulary as a GB.

At the present, the funding status of Lovenox products on the ODB Formulary and the EAP will remain unchanged, and patients eligible under existing Limited Use (LU) and EAP criteria for Lovenox may continue to receive Lovenox funded through the Drug Program. Further changes to the funding status of Lovenox products will be announced at a later date.

## **6. What are biosimilars?**

Biosimilars, also referred to as subsequent entry biologics or follow-on biologics, are biologics that are highly similar to an originator biologic. Biosimilars may enter the market after the patent or data protection rights for the originator biologic have expired. Health Canada conducts rigorous testing to ensure that biosimilars have a highly similar structure, are equally as safe, and have the same therapeutic effect as an originator biologic. Ontario is confident in the safety and efficacy of biosimilars based on our experience over the past 7 years, as well as the experiences of many places around the world. The use of biosimilar medicines has been well-established in Europe over the past 20 years of positive experience with more than 50 approved biosimilar medicines.

Please refer to Health Canada's fact sheet on biosimilars for more information:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/biologics-radiopharmaceuticals-genetic-therapies/applications-submissions/guidance-documents/fact-sheet-biosimilars.html>

### **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