

Funding for Avastin across Canada

Province	Is Avastin Funded?	Funded Since	Is there a cap? (Y/N)	Details	Cost per year	Number of patients
British Columbia	Yes	January 2006 (First province to fund)	Yes, but not a hard cap (see details)	Capped at 12 cycles up to February 2008. Then capped at 16 cycles and a Compassionate Access Program established to consider extensions beyond 16 cycles. As of October 2008, patients who reach 12 cycles can apply for an additional 12 cycles and can apply through the Compassionate Access Program for extensions beyond 24 cycles if their disease has not progressed. <i>(Source: B.C. Cancer Agency)</i>	\$6.3M in 2008	Approx. 30% of patients request funding beyond 12 cycles. (Since January 2006, 108 patients have requested funding beyond 16 cycles, and 96 beyond 24 cycles.)
Alberta	Yes	April 2009 (latest province to fund)	No	Funded to disease progression. Only physicians who are identified by Alberta Health Services may prescribe Avastin to their patients. <i>(Source: Alberta Cancer Board)</i>	Up to \$5M is provided per year.	About 75 at the time of report (projected to reach about 100).
Saskatchewan*	Yes	January 2008	No	The highest number of cycles that a patient has received so far is 23 cycles. <i>(Source: Saskatchewan Cancer Agency)</i>	\$2.643 M spent between January 2008 and March 2009	-
Manitoba	No	N/A	N/A	Manitoba officials indicated that Avastin is available on a case-by-case basis.	-	-
Ontario	Yes	July 2008	Yes	Treatments funded up to 12 cycles plus an additional four where the disease is stable and the patient is responding. In response to the Ombudsman's report, Ministry will consider additional funding but only if patients meet rigid and strict criteria for compassionate access. <i>(Source: Ontario Public Drug Programs branch, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care)</i>	\$12.8M spent between July 2008 and April 2009	283 patients started in July and August 2008. Of these, only 14% made it to 16 cycles.

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Quebec*	Yes	October 2007	No	Avastin is funded until there is evidence that the disease is progressing, or until there are significant side effects. <i>(Source: Ministère de la santé et des services sociaux)</i>	\$8.6M spent between October 2007 and March 2008	823 patients were treated during the period from October 2007 to March 2008.
New Brunswick	Yes	Starts December 1, 2009	No	Avastin will be funded until there is evidence of disease progression. <i>(Source: New Brunswick Cancer Network)</i>	\$3.4 M (projected)	-
Nova Scotia	Yes	Aug 2008 (retroactive to April 2008)	No	After initially rejecting funding in July 2007, the province now provides funding. Funding continues as long as there is continued response to treatment. <i>(Source: Nova Scotia Department of Health)</i>	\$3.6 M (projected)	-
Newfoundland and Labrador*	Yes	July 2006	Yes, but not a hard cap (see details)	While there is a guideline to fund to 12 cycles, in practice, patients are funded beyond that. <i>(Source: Eastern Health Agency)</i>	\$2 M	Approx. 95 patients per year.
Prince Edward Island	No	N/A	N/A	Decision not to fund at all based on overall cost. <i>(Source: PEI Ministry of Social Services)</i>	N/A	N/A

* These provinces fund first- and second-line treatment.

N/A – not applicable

' - ' - data not available