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CANADA**



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**Uniquely devoted to the Canadian myeloma community**

## **Nova Scotia approves funding for Lenalidomide (Revlimid®)**

Nova Scotia, March 2011

Myeloma patients in Nova Scotia received good news this month when they learned of their government's decision to approve the funding of lenalidomide (Revlimid®) as second-line treatment (in combination with dexamethasone). This favourable decision now leaves Prince Edward Island as the only Canadian jurisdiction to not have approved funding for the drug.

It is also the hope of Myeloma Canada that the only two private insurers in Canada (namely Medavie Blue Cross and ClaimSecure) to not offer reimbursement of lenalidomide will now follow the lead of every other insurance company and all provinces but PEI and add lenalidomide to their respective formularies. Until now, these private payers have refused to reimburse lenalidomide for their group insurance members, thereby further disadvantaging Atlantic Canadians where Medavie Blue Cross is the primary carrier.

Myeloma Canada continues its advocacy efforts in both Prince Edward Island and in Quebec and Newfoundland & Labrador, where lenalidomide is approved only as a third-line treatment.

For more information on the Nova Scotia decision, please click on the following link and scroll down to lenalidomide.

[http://www.gov.ns.ca/health/cancer\\_drugs/](http://www.gov.ns.ca/health/cancer_drugs/)