



Partner Update

May 2025

Change to Bioavailable Testosterone testing – British Columbia

Audience

All healthcare providers who order bioavailable testosterone.

Overview

The Dynacare vision is to be Canada's health and wellness solutions leader. Effective June 9, 2025, Dynacare will repatriate testing for bioavailable testosterone.

Details

Bioavailable testosterone is estimated from measured total testosterone and sex hormone-binding globulin (SHBG) using Vermeulen's algorithm¹. Total testosterone and bioavailable testosterone are orderable tests, while SHBG is not an orderable test. Medical Services Plan (MSP) funding for SHBG will be provided in the following:

- For adult males (>18 yrs), SHBG is funded for patients whose total testosterone falls between 3-8 nmol/L and 30-35 nmol/L
- If patients qualify for funding, SHBG will be automatically reflex tested and bioavailable testosterone will be calculated. The patient report will include results for total testosterone, SHBG, and bioavailable testosterone.
- If patients do not qualify for funding, no reflex testing will occur. The patient report will include a result for total testosterone only.

For patients who do not qualify for MSP funding, but still require a result for bioavailable testosterone, testing is available through private pay. The panel includes total testosterone, SHBG and bioavailable testosterone, and patients will be charged for each of the three tests. Please note that the patient pay panel cannot be added to an existing requisition.

Action Required

Healthcare providers should be aware of this change.

Questions about the Change?

If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact Customer Care at 250.763.4813

Dr. Nicole White-Al Habeeb, PhD, FCACB
Scientific Director, Chemistry

Dr. Jason Doyle, MD, FRCPC (General Pathology)
Medical Laboratory Director

References

1. A critical evaluation of simple method for the estimation of free testosterone in serum. J Clin Endocrinol Metab 1999;84(10):3666-3672.

