



## Get Involved in CLLPAG

CLLPAG has openings on the Board of Directors. For more information and an application form visit the [CLLPAG website](#) or contact: [Deborah](#) . ***CLLPAG is a volunteer-run patient organization that advocates for and provides education about health care that will extend the lives of Canadians affected by Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL) and Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma (SLL).***

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## Imbruvica (ibrutinib) Approved Across Most of Canada

With the exception of PEI, Imbruvica (ibrutinib) has been approved for CLL/SLL in all provinces. The conditions set by each province include: 17p deletion, previous treatment with a fludarabine-based chemotherapy, timing of relapse, a review period of one year or less.

For information:

[CADTH/pCODR Provincial Funding for ibrutinib \(Imbruvica\)](#)

Check the [CLLPAG website](#) for information on the Quebec approval.

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## Rising drug costs are Forcing Changes in Private Drug Plans

Innovative Medicines, the industry association of the pharmaceutical industry, recently held a seminar for patient groups about changes in private drug plans.

The pharmaceutical industry representatives reported that new high-priced specialty drugs are creating a budget crunch for the private group insurance drug plans (Green Shield, Great West Life and Manulife and other insurers). CLL patients are familiar with Ibrutinib, which has recently been approved in most provinces and can cost over \$100,000 a year to patients without drug coverage.

To ensure that your health needs are met, it is best to check with your employer or trade union to make sure they are aware of your drug needs. Ask to be made aware of any discussions about changes in drug coverage. For more information: [CLLPAG](#)

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