



## **Janssen Inc. Statement on Alberta Biosimilars Initiative**

Biologic medications are complex medicines often used for difficult-to-treat chronic diseases. Patients with these diseases often go through a difficult journey to find a medicine that works for them.

The entry of biosimilars has changed Canada's healthcare landscape and we believe the approval of new treatment options, including biosimilars, is a positive development for patients and the Canadian healthcare system. While the promise of short-term cost savings may encourage the adoption of these medicines, it should not compromise patient and physician choice.

We are disappointed about the significant impact the Alberta government's policy announcement will have on patients. Requiring patients currently stable on a biologic medication to switch to a biosimilar for no medical reason is concerning.

At Janssen, our primary concern is for patients. We strongly believe that treatment decisions should be based on what a physician determines is in the best interest of each patient; not driven by government policies that restrict treatment choice.

We recognize the financial pressures on the Canadian healthcare system and continue to work with government to propose agreements that provide comparable cost savings being sought while preserving patient and physician choice. Each of our formal proposals presented to Alberta Health has been rejected.

We urge the Alberta government to reconsider this unnecessary change, which eliminates patient and physician choice for treatment.