

BC PharmaCare Drug Information

The drug below is being considered for possible coverage under the B.C. PharmaCare program. PharmaCare is a government-funded drug plan that helps British Columbians with the cost of eligible prescription drugs and specific medical supplies. For more information on PharmaCare, visit [Ministry of Health - PharmaCare](#).

PharmaCare reviews each drug for treating a specific illness or medical condition (known as an “indication”). If a decision is made to cover the drug, it will be only for that illness or condition.

In some cases, PharmaCare may cover a drug only for people who have the illness or condition and have not responded to other drugs used to treat that illness or condition.

For more information on PharmaCare’s drug coverage review process, see the last page of this information sheet.

Information about the drug	
Generic name (scientific name)	aclidinium-formoterol
Brand name	Duaklir[®] Genuair[®]
Manufacturer	AstraZeneca Canada Inc.
Indication	Duaklir [®] Genuair [®] is used for the treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
Has the drug been reviewed by the Common Drug Review (CDR)? (see the note below this table)	Yes. For more information about the CDR’s review of aclidinium-formoterol (Duaklir [®] Genuair [®]), you can Search the CDR Reports .
Public input start date	Wednesday July 22, 2015
Public input closing date	Wednesday August 19, 2015 AT MIDNIGHT
How is the drug taken?	Duaklir [®] Genuair [®] is taken as a dry powder which is inhaled
How often is the drug is taken?	Duaklir [®] Genuair [®] is taken twice daily

Information about the drug	
General drug and/or drug study information	<p>Duaklir® Genuair® contains two active ingredients: acclidinium and formoterol. Both belong to a group of medicines called bronchodilators that relax airways and make it easier for patients with COPD to breathe.</p> <p>Studies looked at the following common outcomes to assess if Duaklir® Genuair® is helpful and safe for the treatment of COPD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pulmonary Function Test by spirometry measures (eg. Forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV1)) • Dyspnea (shortness of breath) • Health-related Quality of Life using St George’s Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ) • Breathing exacerbations (worsening of symptoms) • Mortality • Bad reactions caused by treatment • Withdrawals due to bad reactions (patient stopped taking the drug) • Bad reactions of special interest: nasopharyngitis, headache, dry mouth, dizziness, urinary retention, worsening vision, pneumonia, heart attack, death caused by heart attack and stroke
Other considerations	None

Note:

The Common Drug Review (CDR) is a national organization that reviews drugs on behalf of Canadian public sector plans when manufacturers want to have the jurisdictions provide coverage for the drugs. For detailed information on B.C. PharmaCare’s drug review process, including the role of the CDR in that process, see [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#).

Cost of the drug under review compared to other drugs used to treat the same indication			
generic name (Brand Name) of Drug Comparator	PharmaCare Status (if and how the drug is already covered)	Usual Dose	Annual Cost of Therapy
acclidinium-formoterol (Duaklir® Genuair®)	Under Review	Twice daily	\$974
acclidinium bromide (Tudorza® Genuair®) plus formoterol (Foradil®)	Limited Coverage	Twice daily	\$697 plus
	Limited Coverage for asthma Non-benefit for COPD	Twice daily	\$664 Total: \$1361
acclidinium bromide (Tudorza® Genuair®) plus formoterol (Oxeze®)	Limited Coverage	Twice daily	\$697 plus
	Limited Coverage for asthma Non-benefit for COPD	Twice daily	\$589 Total: \$1286

Cost of the drug under review compared to other drugs used to treat the same indication

generic name (Brand Name) of Drug Comparator	PharmaCare Status (if and how the drug is already covered)	Usual Dose	Annual Cost of Therapy
Long Acting Beta Agonists (LABA)/ Long-acting Muscarinic Antagonist (LAMA) Combinations			
indacaterol-glycopyrronium (Ultibro [®] Breezhaler [®])	Limited Coverage	Once daily	\$1,056
umeclidinium-vilanterol (Anoro [™] Ellipta [®])	Under Review	Once daily	\$1,064
tiotropium-olodaterol (Inspiralto [™] Respimat [®])	Under review	Once daily	\$828

The Drug Review Process in B.C.

A manufacturer submits a request to the Ministry of Health (Ministry).

An independent group called the [Drug Benefit Council \(Council\)](#) gives advice to the Ministry. The Council looks at:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- advice from a national group called the [Common Drug Review \(CDR\)](#)
- what the drug costs and whether it is a good value for the people of B.C.
- ethical considerations involved with covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes PharmaCare coverage decisions by taking into account:

- the existing PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the Council
- the drugs already covered by PharmaCare that are used to treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

For more information about the B.C. Drug Review Process, visit: [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#).

This document is intended for information only.

It does not take the place of advice from a physician or other qualified health care provider.