

Drug Coverage Decision for B.C. PharmaCare

About PharmaCare

B.C. PharmaCare is a government-funded drug plan. It helps British Columbians with the cost of eligible prescription drugs and specific medical supplies.

Details of Drug Reviewed

Drug	infliximab
Brand Name	Inflectra®
Dosage Form(s)	100 mg vial
Manufacturer	Pfizer Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Indication
Use Reviewed	Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDR website for more details: www.cadth.ca/node/88649 .
Provincial Review	DBC now screens drug submissions under review by the CDR to determine whether or not a full DBC review is necessary, based on past DBC reviews, recommendations, and existing PharmaCare coverage. If a full DBC review is determined to not be required, the Ministry's drug coverage decision will be based on the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommendation and an internal review only. Inflectra® was reviewed internally and was not reviewed by the Drug Benefit Council (DBC) for the treatment of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis in infliximab-naïve patients. The Ministry considered the final review completed by the CDR, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendation from CDEC. The Ministry also considered Clinical Practice Reviews from three specialists and a patient input from one patient.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage Benefit . Access the infliximab (Inflectra®) criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority
Date	November 1, 2016
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflectra® is a biosimilar version of infliximab based upon the reference product Remicade®. It was approved by Health Canada and supported by the CDR for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis based upon data demonstrating similarity and no meaningful differences compared to Remicade®. • Based on the available evidence, Inflectra® is similar to Remicade® with respect to efficacy, safety and tolerability. • At the submitted price, the cost of Inflectra® is lower than the cost of Remicade®. • Pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance negotiated a lower transparent price that is available to all, public and private payers.
Other Information	None

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](#) (DBC) gives advice to the Ministry. The DBC looks at:

- advice from a national group called the Common Drug Review
- whether the drug is safe and effective
- whether it is a good value for the people of B.C.
- the ethics of covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a decision based on many factors, including:

- advice from the DBC
- drugs used to treat similar medical conditions that B.C. PharmaCare already covers
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit the B.C. [Drug Review Process](#) and [PharmaCare](#) program for more information.

This document is intended for information only.

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