

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	vedolizumab
Brand Name	Entyvio®
Dosage Form(s)	108 mg/0.68 mL single-use pre-filled pen 108 mg/0.68 mL single-use pre-filled syringe
Manufacturer	Takeda Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	Ulcerative Colitis Crohn's Disease
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Ulcerative Colitis: Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions. Crohn's Disease: 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	The Drug Benefit Council (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 CDEC recommendation and an internal review only. Vedolizumab subcutaneous was not reviewed by the DBC because after consultation with the Ministry on Jan 2020 for UC and Sept 2020 for CD, the DBC recommended that it does not need to complete a detailed review as vedolizumab is similar to other drugs previously reviewed by DBC.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage Benefit Access the vedolizumab criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority

Date	April 12, 2022
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drug demonstrated some advantage over placebo with respect to clinical remission of the disease. • Intravenous vedolizumab is already a PharmaCare Limited Coverage Benefit, and this subcutaneous dosage form allows patients to administer the treatment at home. • The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance negotiations with the manufacturer which were able to address the concerns identified by the CDEC with respect to the cost-effectiveness and value for money.
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:

- 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 DBC
- the drugs already covered by PharmaCare that are used to treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#) and [Ministry of Health - PharmaCare](#) 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.