

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	Glucagon nasal powder
Brand Name	Baqsimi™
Dosage Form	3 mg intranasal device
Manufacturer	Eli Lilly Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of severe hypoglycemic reactions which may occur in the management of insulin treated patients with diabetes mellitus, when impaired consciousness prevents the ingestion of oral carbohydrates.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDR website for more details: https://cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0626%20Baqsimi%20-%20CDEC%20Final%20Recommendation%20for%20Posting%20January%2024%2C%202020.pdf
Provincial Review	The Drug Benefit Council (DBC) screens drug submissions under review by the CDR to determine whether 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. The DBC screened glucagon nasal powder in September 2019 and advised that, because the drug is similar to other drugs used for the treatment of severe hypoglycemia, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for glucagon nasal powder.
Drug Coverage Decision	Regular Benefit
Date	April 5, 2022

Reasons	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The drug was similar to intramuscular glucagon with respect to efficacy. 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.