

# 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

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Elosulfase alfa</b>
Brand Name	Vimizim™
Dosage Form(s)	5 mg/5 ml Single-use Vial for injection
Manufacturer	BioMarin Pharmaceutical (Canada) Inc.
<b>Submission Review</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of mucopolysaccharidosis type IVA (MPS IVA or Morquio A syndrome).
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes. CDR recommended: <b>Do not list</b> . Visit CDR website for more details: <a href="http://www.cadth.ca/node/88649">www.cadth.ca/node/88649</a>
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on March 2, 2015. DBC considered various inputs including the Common Drug Review (CDR) Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) embargoed recommendation which was released on January 30, 2015. The CDEC embargoed recommendation included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material. The final CDEC recommendation was released on March 25, 2015 and reached the same do not list recommendation as the embargoed recommendation. The DBC also considered Patient Input Questionnaire responses from one Patient Group, Clinical Practice Reviews from two specialists, Manufacturer comments on the CDEC Embargoed Recommendation, as well as a Budget Impact Assessment.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-Benefit</b>
Date	September 22, 2015
Reason(s)	<p><b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The drug demonstrated advantages over placebo in the six minute walking test. However all other outcomes of interest to patients with MSP IVA were either not evaluated or did not demonstrate advantages over placebo.</li> <li>Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug was not cost effective. At the manufacturer list price, the cost to treat one patient would exceed \$1 million dollars each year.</li> </ul>
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.