

# 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>latanoprost</b>
Brand Name	Monoprost®
Dosage Form(s)	50 µg/mL (preservative-free) Ophthalmic Solution
Manufacturer	Laboratoires Thea.
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	The reduction of intraocular pressure in patients with open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: <b>to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions.</b> Visit the CDR website for more details: <a href="http://www.cadth.ca/node/88649">www.cadth.ca/node/88649</a> .  <a href="https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0541_cdr_complete_Monoprost_apr-26-18_e.pdf">https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0541_cdr_complete_Monoprost_apr-26-18_e.pdf</a>
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	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. The DBC screened Monoprost® on Dec 4, 2017. The DBC advised that because latanoprost (preservative free) is similar to existing prostaglandin analogues, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for Monoprost®
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-Benefit</b>
Date	January 28, 2020
Reason(s)	<b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC reasons for recommendation.</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is insufficient evidence to suggest that Monoprost<sup>®</sup> has better tolerability than Benzalkonium preserved Xalatan<sup>®</sup>.</li> <li>• There is no evidence that Monoprost<sup>®</sup> is more efficacious than other prostaglandin analogue formulations.</li> <li>• The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance negotiations with the manufacturer which were not able to address the concerns identified by the CDEC with respect to the cost-effectiveness and value for money. Therefore, the condition that the drug plan cost of treatment with Monoprost should not exceed the drug plan cost of treatment with the least costly prostaglandin analogue was not met.</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:

- 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.