

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	alirocumab
Brand Name	Praluent™
Dosage Forms	75 mg/mL and 150 mg/mL solution for subcutaneous injection in pre-filled syringes and pens
Manufacturer	Sanofi–Aventis Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	Treatment of high-risk adult patients who have had prior cardiovascular (CV) events and require additional lowering of low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C)
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/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0469_complete_Praluent_Jul-20-16.pdf
Provincial Review	DBC now 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 CDEC recommendation and an internal review only. The DBC screened alirocumab on March 7, 2016. The DBC advised that because alirocumab is similar to some of the other drugs used for the treatment of high-risk adult patients who have had prior CV events and require additional lowering of LDL-C, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for alirocumab.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non Benefit for high-risk adult patients who have had prior cardiovascular (CV) events and require additional lowering of low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C)
Date	January 28, 2020
Reason(s)	Drug Coverage decision is consistent with CDEC Recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alirocumab demonstrated advantage over placebo in lowering LDL-C.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the submitted price alicumab was not considered cost-effective for this indication. 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.
Other Information	Alicumab is still Under review for adult patients with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HeFH)

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 [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.