

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	ixekizumab
Brand Name	Taltz™
Dosage Form(s)	80 mg/1 mL pre-filled autoinjector and pre-filled syringe
Manufacturer	Eli Lilly Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Indication
Use Reviewed	ankylosing spondylitis (AS)
Common Drug Review (CDR)	<p>If CDR reviewed, include: Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions. Visit the CDR website for more details:</p> <p>www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0630%20Taltz%20-%20CDEC%20Final%20Recommendation%20March%2027%2C%202020_for%20posting.pdf</p>
Provincial Review	<p>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 ixekizumab and advised that because ixekizumab is similar to some of the other drugs used for the treatment of AS, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation.</p> <p>The Ministry reviewed clinical evidence and pharmacoeconomic reports prepared by the CDR, Final CDEC Recommendation, and patient input from five patients, one caregiver, and two patient groups collected through Your Voice.</p>
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	March 15, 2022
Reason(s)	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ixekizumab has demonstrated advantage over placebo with respect to efficacy as shown by the proportion of patients achieving 40% Assessment of Spondyloarthritis International Society criteria score. However, there is a lack of active comparator studies. • At the submitted price ixekizumab was not considered cost-effective for this indication. The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) 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	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.