

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	fluticasone propionate/salmeterol xinafoate
Brand Name	Arbesda Respiclick™
Dosage Form(s)	55mcg/14 mcg, 113 mcg/14 mcg, and 232 mcg/14 mcg/actuation dry powder for inhalation
Manufacturer	Teva Canada Innovation
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of asthma in patients aged 12 years and older
Common Drug Review (CDR)	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/SR0540%20Arbesda%20RespiClick%20-%20CDEC%20Final%20Recommendation%20for%20Posting%20December%2021%2C%202018.pdf
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	The 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 Arbesda Respiclick on December 4, 2017. The DBC advised that, because Arbesda Respiclick is similar to some of the other products used for the treatment of asthma, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for Arbesda Respiclick.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	February 11, 2020
Reason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teva Canada Innovation confirmed that they are unable to bring Arbesda Respiclick to the Canadian market at sufficient quantities at this time.
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 [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.