

BC PharmaCare Drug Information

The drug below is being considered for possible coverage under the B.C. PharmaCare program. PharmaCare is a government-funded drug plan that helps British Columbians with the cost of eligible prescription drugs and specific medical supplies. For more information on PharmaCare, visit [Ministry of Health - PharmaCare](#).

PharmaCare reviews each drug for treating a specific illness or medical condition (known as an “indication”). If a decision is made to cover the drug, it will be only for that illness or condition.

In some cases, PharmaCare may cover a drug only for people who have the illness or condition and have not responded to other drugs used to treat that illness or condition.

For more information on PharmaCare’s drug coverage review process, see the last page of this information sheet.

Information about the drug	
Generic name (scientific name)	asunaprevir
Brand name	Sunvepra™
Manufacturer	Bristol-Myers Squibb
Indication	Sunvepra™ is indicated for the treatment of chronic (lasting a long time) Hepatitis C genotype 1, 1b or 4 infection.
Has the drug been reviewed by the Common Drug Review (CDR)? (see the note below this table.)	Yes For more information about the CDR’s review of asunaprevir (Sunvepra™), you can Search the CDR Reports .
Public input start date	Wednesday May 18, 2016
Public input closing date	Wednesday June 15, 2016 AT MIDNIGHT
How is the drug taken?	Sunvepra™ is taken orally (by mouth).
How often is the drug is taken?	Sunvepra™ is taken twice daily.

Information about the drug	
General drug and/or drug study information	<p>Sunvepra™, in combination with other types of anti-hepatitis C virus (anti-HCV) drugs, is used to treat chronic hepatitis C (CHC) infection in adults. Sunvepra™, in combination with daclatasvir (Daklinza™) or daclatasvir and pegylated interferon plus ribavirin, blocks multiple steps in the replication process of the Hepatitis C virus (HCV). This prevents the virus particles from duplicating themselves, allowing the body to clear (remove) the virus from the blood.</p> <p>Sunvepra™, in combination with other types of anti-HCV drugs, has been shown to cure CHC infection in the majority of patients. Virologic cure means the HCV is cleared from the patient's blood (remains at an undetectable level) when measured 3 months after finishing all treatment.</p> <p>Studies looked at the following common outcomes to assess if Sunvepra™, in combination with other types of anti-HCV drugs, is helpful and safe for the treatment of CHC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effectiveness of the Hepatitis C treatment using Sustained Virologic Response (SVR) measurement which measures the HCV in the blood three months after the end of treatment • The return of the disease or relapse after achieving cure • Quality of life • Bad reactions • Serious bad reactions • Patients leaving the trial due to bad reactions • Bad reactions of special interest: headache, nausea and fatigue
Other considerations	None

Note:

The Common Drug Review (CDR) is a national organization that reviews drugs on behalf of Canadian public sector plans when manufacturers want to have the jurisdictions provide coverage for the drugs. For detailed information on B.C. PharmaCare's drug review process, including the role of the CDR in that process, see [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#).

Cost of the drug under review compared to other drugs indicated for CHC Genotype 1, 1b or 4			
Generic Name (Brand Name) of Drug Comparator	PharmaCare Status (if and how the drug is already covered)	Usual Dose	Cost for One Course of Combination Therapy
asunaprevir (Sunvepra™) with daclatasvir (Daklinza™)	Under Review for genotype 1b	Twice daily (daclatasvir: once daily)	\$89,250 ^b
asunaprevir (Sunvepra™) with daclatasvir (Daklinza™) and peginterferon alfa and ribavirin (RBV) (Pegasys RBV™, Pegatron™, Pegatron™ Redipen)	Under Review for genotype 1 or genotype 4	Twice daily (daclatasvir: once daily; peginterferon: once weekly; RBV: twice daily)	\$99,158 to \$100,512 ^b
Drug Comparators for Genotype 1			
elbasvir-grazoprevir (Zepatier™) with or without RBV	Under Review for genotype 1	Once daily (RBV: twice daily)	Without ribavirin \$63,315 ^b With ribavirin \$87,928 ^b to \$89,681 ^b
ombitasvir-paritaprevir-ritonavir and dasabuvir (Holkira™ Pak) with or without RBV ^a	Limited Coverage	Twice daily (RBV: twice daily)	\$58,653 ^a to \$117,306 ^a
ledipasvir-sofosbuvir (Harvoni™)	Limited Coverage	Once daily	\$46,900 to \$140,702
sofosbuvir (Sovaldi™) with peginterferon alfa plus RBV	Limited Coverage	Once daily (peginterferon alfa: once weekly; RBV: twice daily)	\$62,739
simeprevir (Galexos™) with peginterferon alfa plus RBV	Limited Coverage	Once daily (peginterferon alfa: once weekly; RBV: twice daily)	\$48,303 to \$58,278
simeprevir (Galexos™) with sofosbuvir (Sovaldi™)	Submission not received for genotype 1	simeprevir: once daily sofosbuvir: once daily	\$96,078 to \$192,156
daclatasvir (Daklinza™) with sofosbuvir (Sovaldi™)	Submission not received for genotype 1	daclatasvir: once daily sofosbuvir: once daily	\$95,550 ^b to \$191,100 ^b

Cost of the drug under review compared to other drugs indicated for CHC Genotype 1, 1b or 4			
Generic Name (Brand Name) of Drug Comparator	PharmaCare Status (if and how the drug is already covered)	Usual Dose	Cost for One Course of Combination Therapy
Drug Comparators for Genotype 1b			
elbasvir-grazoprevir (Zepatier™) with or without RBV	Under Review for genotype 1b	Once daily (RBV: twice daily)	Without ribavirin \$42,210 ^b to \$63,315 ^b
ombitasvir-paritaprevir- ritonavir and dasabuvir (Holkira™ Pak) with or without RBV ^a	Limited Coverage	Twice daily (RBV: twice daily)	\$58,653 ^a
ledipasvir-sofosbuvir (Harvoni™)	Limited Coverage	Once daily	\$46,900 to \$140,702
Drug Comparators for Genotype 4			
elbasvir-grazoprevir (Zepatier™) with or without RBV	Under Review for genotype 4	Once daily (RBV: twice daily)	Without ribavirin \$63,315 ^b With ribavirin \$87,928 ^b to \$89,681 ^b
ombitasvir-paritaprevir- ritonavir (Technivie™) with or without RBV ^a	Under Review for genotype 4	Once daily (RBV: twice daily)	\$58,653 ^{a,b}
peginterferon alfa plus RBV (Pegasys RBV™, Pegatron™, Pegatron™ Redipen)	Limited Coverage	peginterferon alfa: once weekly; RBV: twice daily	\$19,817 to \$22,523
sofosbuvir (Sovaldi™) with peginterferon alfa plus RBV	Submission not received for genotype 4	Once daily (peginterferon alfa: once weekly; RBV: twice daily)	\$62,739
simeprevir (Galexos™) with peginterferon alfa plus RBV	Submission not received for genotype 4	Once daily (peginterferon alfa: once weekly; RBV: twice daily)	\$48,303 to \$58,278

^aRBV (Moderiba™) is provided free of charge from the manufacturer when prescribed in combination with Holkira™ Pak or Technivie™

^bManufacturer's submitted market price

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 Council
- the drugs already covered by PharmaCare that are used to treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

For more information about the B.C. Drug Review Process, visit: [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#).

This document is intended for information only.

It does not take the place of advice from a physician or other qualified health care provider.