

# 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>dexamethasone</b>
Brand Name	Ozurdex®
Dosage Form(s)	Intravitreal Implant 0.7 mg
Manufacturer	AbbVie Inc.
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of adult patients with diabetic macular edema who are pseudophakic and have had an inadequate response to prior anti-vascular endothelial growth factor therapy.
Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) Reimbursement Reviews (CRR)	Yes, the CRR recommended: <b>Do Not Reimburse.</b> Visit the CRR website for more <a href="#">details</a> .
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	The DBC did not review <b>Ozurdex®</b> for this indication.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-Benefit</b>

Date	August 17, 2023
Reason(s)	<p><b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CADTH recommendations.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The evidence reviewed was insufficient to demonstrate benefit of Ozurdex over other relevant treatment options.</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 [Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health \(CADTH\) Reimbursement Reviews\(CRR\)](#)
- 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.