



Drug Coverage Decision for BC PharmaCare

About PharmaCare

BC PharmaCare is a publicly funded drug plan that helps B.C. residents pay for most prescription drugs and pharmacy services, and some medical devices and supplies.

Details of Drug Reviewed

Drug	elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor
Brand name	Trikafta®
Dosage form(s)	elexacaftor 100 mg / tezacaftor 50 mg / ivacaftor 75 mg granules and ivacaftor 75 mg granules elexacaftor 80 mg / tezacaftor 40 mg / ivacaftor 60 mg granules and ivacaftor 59.5 mg granules
Manufacturer	Vertex Pharmaceuticals (Canada) Inc.
Submission type	Modification of Criteria
Use reviewed	Cystic fibrosis in patients aged two to five years who have at least one F508del mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator gene
Canada's Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) Reimbursement Reviews (CRR)	CRR recommended to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CRR website for more details .
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	The DBC screened Trikafta for ages two to five on July 10, 2023 and advised that, because it reviewed Trikafta for patients age six and older on August 15, 2022, the Ministry may accept the CRR recommendation for ages two to five.
Drug coverage decision	Coverage considered through the Expensive Drugs for Rare Diseases (EDRD) process
Date	December 14, 2023
Reasons	The Ministry has reimbursed Trikafta for CF patients aged six and older since October 2022.

In December 2023, CADTH recommended that Trikafta be reimbursed for patients aged two to five years as Trikafta demonstrated some advantages over the standard of care with respect to efficacy and safety. The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance negotiations with the manufacturer which were able to address the concerns identified by CADTH with respect to the cost-effectiveness and value for money.

The drug review process in B.C.

A manufacturer submits a request to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry).

An independent group called the [Drug Benefit Council \(DBC\)](#) gives advice to the Ministry by considering:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- advice from a national group called the [Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health \(CADTH\)](#)
- what the drug costs and whether funding it provides good value to the province
- ethical considerations of covering and not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a BC PharmaCare coverage decision by taking into account:

- existing BC PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the DBC
- drugs already covered by BC PharmaCare that treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit [Ministry of Health - PharmaCare](#) and [BC PharmaCare – Drug reviews](#) 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.