



Drug Coverage Decision Update for BC PharmaCare

About PharmaCare

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

Details of Drug Reviewed

Drug	inotersen
Brand name	Tegsed TM
Dosage form(s)	Single dose pre-filled syringe
Manufacturer	Akcea Therapeutics, Inc.
Review type	Benefit Status Update
Indication reviewed	Polyneuropathy in adult patients with hereditary transthyretin amyloidosis (hATTR)
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	October 24, 2024
Reason(s)	<p>Manufacturer announced discontinuation of TegsedTM in Canada effective October 24, 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Withdrawal of the medication is a business decision and is not related to manufacturing, quality or safety matters. • Akcea Connect Patient Support Program will continue to support TegsedTM patients through January 24, 2025.
Other Information	A list of other reimbursed therapies for hATTR with polyneuropathy can be found here .

The drug review process in BC

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 [Canada's Drug Agency \(CDA\)](#)
- 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 [BC PharmaCare](#) and [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.