

# 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>abrocitinib</b>
Brand Name	Cibinqo®
Dosage Form(s)	50 mg, 100 mg and 200 mg tablets
Manufacturer	Pfizer Canada ULC.
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	Moderate to severe atopic dermatitis
Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) Reimbursement Reviews (CRR)	Yes, the CRR recommended: <b>to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions</b> . Visit the CRR website for more details: <a href="https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/DRR/2022/SR0686REC-Cibinqo_Final.pdf">https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/DRR/2022/SR0686REC-Cibinqo_Final.pdf</a> .
Provincial Review	DBC now screens drug submissions under review by the CRR 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 abrocitinib on June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2021. The DBC advised that because abrocitinib is similar to some of the other drugs used for the treatment of atopic dermatitis, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for abrocitinib.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the abrocitinib criteria from <a href="http://www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority">www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority</a></b>

Date	<b>November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023</b>
Reasons	<p>Coverage decision is consistent with CDEC recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Results from four double-blind randomized clinical trials (RCTs) demonstrated that, compared with placebo, 12 or 16 weeks of treatment with abrocitinib was associated with statistically significant and clinically meaningful improvements in a range of outcomes that are important in the management of AD.</li> <li>• In terms of safety profile, treatment was well tolerated in the RCTs when compared with placebo.</li> <li>• At the submitted price, abrocitinib is not considered cost-effective for this indication.</li> <li>• The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) negotiations with the manufacturer which were able to address the concerns with respect to the cost-effectiveness and value for money.</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.