

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

Drug	adalimumab
Brand Name	Humira®
Dosage Form(s)	40 mg in 0.8 mL solution for subcutaneous injection
Manufacturer	AbbVie Corporation
Submission Type	New Indication
Use Reviewed	Hidradenitis Suppurativa (HS)
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDR website for more details: www.cadth.ca/about-cadth/what-we-do/products-services/cdr/reports
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	The DBC met on June 6, 2016. Various inputs were considered: final reviews completed by the CDR, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendations from the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC). The DBC also considered Patient Input Questionnaire responses from two Patient Groups, CDR Patient Group input, Clinical Practice Reviews from three specialists, and a Budget Impact Assessment.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	April 18, 2017
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adalimumab was associated with improvements in quality of life measures and was more effective than placebo for reducing abscess and inflammatory nodule counts in the clinical trials. • Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug is not cost-effective. • The DBC recommended that adalimumab not be listed at the submitted price. • The pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) decided not to negotiate collectively or individually at the provincial-territorial level with the manufacturer of adalimumab. The manufacturers and pCPA jurisdictions have engaged in thorough discussions regarding criteria and conditions as recommended through the CDR review and both recognize that an agreement could not be reached at the current time.
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 [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 DBC
- the drugs already covered by PharmaCare that are used to treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit the [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.