

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	apixaban
Brand Name	Eliquis™
Dosage Form(s)	2.5 mg and 5 mg tablets
Manufacturer	Bristol Myers Squibb and Pfizer Canada Inc.
Submission Review	New Indication
Use Reviewed	Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE)
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes. CDR recommended: to List with criteria. Visit the CDR website for more details: https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/cdr_complete_SR0397_Eliquis-VTE_May-11-15.pdf
Drug Benefit Council (DBC) or Provincial Review (choose one)	DBC met on June 1, 2015. DBC considered the following: final review completed by the Common Drug Review (CDR) on May 7, 2015, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendation from the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC). The DBC also considered Patient Input Questionnaire responses from one patient, Clinical Practice Reviews from two specialists, as well as a Budget Impact Assessment.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the apixaban criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority
Date	April 5, 2016
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apixaban was similar to warfarin and enoxaparin with respect to efficacy in patients with confirmed symptomatic DVT and PE with a risk of recurrence. • Apixaban was similar or demonstrated some advantage over combination of warfarin and enoxaparin with respect to safety. • The cost of apixaban in the acute phase (6 months) is comparable to both: rivaroxaban and enoxaparin plus warfarin. However, for the extended treatment phase, apixaban is not cost-effective compared to treatment with warfarin.
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:

- advice from a national group called the Common Drug Review
- whether the drug is safe and effective
- whether it is a good value for the people of B.C.
- the ethics of covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a decision based on many factors, including:

- advice from the DBC
- drugs used to treat similar medical conditions that B.C. PharmaCare already covers
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit the B.C. [Drug Review Process](#) and [PharmaCare](#) program 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.