

# 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

<b>Drug</b>	avacopan
Brand name	Tavneos®
Dosage form(s)	10 mg capsules
Manufacturer	Otsuka Canada Pharmaceutical Inc.
<b>Submission type</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use reviewed	For the adjunctive treatment of adult patients with severe active anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic autoantibody-associated vasculitis (ANCA-AV) in combination with standard background therapy including glucocorticoids.
Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) Reimbursement Review (CRR)	Yes, CRR recommended: <b>Do Not Reimburse.</b> Visit the CADTH website for more details: <a href="https://www.cadth.ca/avacopan-tavneos">Avacopan (Tavneos) (cadth.ca)</a>
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	Avacopan was reviewed internally and was not reviewed by the DBC because the CRR recommended not to list for severe active ANCA-AV.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-benefit</b>
Date	February 27, 2024
Reason(s)	<b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommendation that avacopan not be reimbursed.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CDEC considered the ADVOCATE trial which was a randomized controlled trial in patients with ANCA-AV, which concluded that treatment with avacopan in combination with background therapy including glucocorticoids and</li> </ul>

immunosuppressants was similar to or demonstrated some advantage over oral prednisone in combination with background therapy including glucocorticoids and immunosuppressants for achieving disease remission.

- CDEC was unclear if avacopan offered a meaningful clinical benefit over other treatments used for ANCA-AV mainly because rituximab was not used as maintenance therapy in the trial as currently recommended by Canadian guidelines, and there is uncertainty around the clinical meaningfulness of the differences between the treatment groups for outcomes that assessed renal function, relapse, and health-related quality of life (HRQoL).
- There was not enough evidence to conclude that avacopan met patients' needs for a treatment that reduces or eliminates the use of glucocorticoids and their side effects as well as improves their HRQoL.
- Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, avacopan® was not cost effective compared to a standard of care (SoC) therapy (e.g., rituximab or cyclophosphamide and glucocorticoids).
- The pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) and Business Management were not involved in negotiations with the manufacturer for avacopan because avacopan did not received a reimbursement recommendation from CDEC.

### 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.