

# 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>baricitinib</b>
Brand Name	Olumiant™
Dosage Form	2 mg oral tablet
Manufacturer	Eli Lilly Canada Inc.
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	For use in combination with methotrexate for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis who have responded inadequately to one or more disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD).
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: <b>to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions</b> . Visit the CDR website for more details: <a href="http://www.cadth.ca/baricitinib-0">www.cadth.ca/baricitinib-0</a>
Provincial Review	<p>The Drug Benefit Council (the DBC) now screens drug submissions under review by the CDR 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 is based on the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommendation and a provincial internal review only. The DBC screened baricitinib for rheumatoid arthritis and advised that, because baricitinib is similar to other drug comparators used for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for baricitinib.</p> <p>The CDEC recommended that baricitinib be reimbursed for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis with the pricing condition that the drug plan cost of treatment with baricitinib should result in cost-savings compared to the drug plan cost of treatment with the least costly alternative biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (bDMARD). British Columbia is not participating in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) price negotiations for baricitinib at this time. Based on British Columbia's provincial review of baricitinib, the drug does not address an unmet clinical need not already met by another janus kinase (JAK)-inhibitor and other bDMARDs</p>

	reimbursed for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, there is no direct evidence that baricitinib provides clinical or safety benefits over existing bDMARDs, and, at list prices, the cost of baricitinib is greater than the cost of other reimbursed bDMARDs for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-Benefit</b>
Date	November 17, 2020
Reasons	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC pricing condition recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no direct evidence that the drug provides clinical or safety benefits over existing, reimbursed JAK-inhibitors and other bDMARDs</li> <li>• The CDEC did not identify that the drug addresses an unmet clinical need not already met by another JAK-inhibitor and other bDMARDs currently reimbursed for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis</li> <li>• Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug was not cost effective and did not offer 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 [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 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.