

# 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>Brolucizumab</b>
Brand Name	Beovu®
Dosage Form(s)	120mg/mL single-use pre-filled syringe
Manufacturer	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	Brolucizumab is indicated for the treatment of neovascular (wet) age-related macular degeneration (nAMD).
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, the 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/node/88649">www.cadth.ca/node/88649</a> .
Provincial Review	Brolucizumab was reviewed by the Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) Joint Accountability Committee, and program staff at the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA).
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-Benefit</b>
Date	July 26, 2022
Reason(s)	<p><b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) and the AMD Joint Accountability Committee recommendation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two trials (HAWK and HARRIER) demonstrated that brolucizumab was non-inferior to its comparator, aflibercept. However, Indirect comparison have led to inconclusive results regarding brolucizumab's efficacy versus other comparators (ranibizumab and bevacizumab).</li> <li>At the manufacturer submitted price, brolucizumab is less expensive than the list price of aflibercept and ranibizumab but is significantly more expensive than bevacizumab.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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.