

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	budesonide
Brand Name	Cortiment ^{®MMX}
Dosage Form(s)	9 mg oral, Delayed and Extended Release tablet
Manufacturer	Ferring Inc.
Submission Type	New Indication
Use Reviewed	Induction of remission in patients with active, mild to moderate ulcerative colitis (UC).
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: Do Not Reimburse . Visit the CDR website for more details: www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0491_complete_Cortiment-Mar-24-17.pdf
Provincial Review	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 will be based on the CDEC recommendation and an internal review only. The DBC screened Cortiment on July 4, 2016. The DBC advised that the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for Cortiment. induction of remission in patients with active, mild to moderate UC.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	June 13, 2017
Reason(s)	<p>The Ministry of Health reviewed clinical evidence and pharmacoeconomic reports prepared by the CDR, the Candian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) Final Recommendation and Reasons, and patient input collected through Your Voice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on CDR review, there is no evidence in the two randomized controlled trials submitted by the manufacturer to suggest that budesonide MMX has a clinical benefit similar to that of appropriate first-line (5-aminosalicylic acid (5-ASAs)) or second-line (systemic corticosteroids) therapies for the induction of remission in patients with active, mild to moderate UC. Budesonide MMX was compared to placebo in both trials. Based on the market prices, budesonide MMX is more costly than 5-ASA therapies and oral prednisone. Given the submitted price and available evidence, budesonide MMX is not cost-effective. The pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) has decided not to negotiate collectively or individually at the provincial-territorial level for budesonide MMX.
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.