

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	exenatide
Brand Name	Byetta™
Dosage Form(s)	5 µg/dose and 10 µg/dose
Manufacturer	Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada
Submission Review	New Submission
Use Reviewed	Byetta® is used in combination with other anti-diabetic drugs, metformin and/or sulfonylurea, to improve blood sugar levels in adult patients with type 2 diabetes.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	CDR recommended to: Do not list at the submitted price. Visit CDR website for more details: http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/cdr_complete_Byetta_July-23-12.pdf
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on October 15, 2012. DBC considered various inputs including: the final review completed by the CDR on July 19, 2012, 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 3 patients; Clinical Practice Reviews from one specialist and one general practitioner, Manufacturer comments, and a Budget Impact Analysis. There were no responses to Patient Input Questionnaires from caregivers or patient groups.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	June 20, 2013
Reason(s)	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drug was similar to other drugs for the treatment of type 2 diabetes in reducing blood sugars (as measured by hemoglobin A1C levels). • The drug did not demonstrate advantages over other drugs with respect to quality of life and safety. • Exenatide demonstrated a greater reduction in body weight than all comparators in the trials, except for liraglutide. • Based on the CDR recommendation, an attempt by the pan-Canadian Pricing Alliance was unsuccessful to address the concerns on cost and cost effectiveness .
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](#) gives advice to the Ministry. The Council 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. and the drugs cost
- 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 Council
- drugs used to treat similar medical conditions that B.C. PharmaCare already covers
- the overall cost of covering the drug

For more information about the B.C. Drug Review Process, please visit
<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/outgoing/drugrevproc2.pdf>.

To find out more about the Pharmaceutical Services Division and the PharmaCare program, visit
www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare.

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It does not take the place of advice from a physician or other qualified health care provider.