

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	fampridine
Brand Name	Fampyra™
Dosage Form(s)	10 mg sustained release tablet
Manufacturer	Biogen Idec Canada Inc.
Submission Review	New Submission
Use Reviewed	Fampyra™ may help adults 18 years and over, who have walking disability related to multiple sclerosis (MS), walk better
Common Drug Review (CDR)	CDR recommended: Do not list http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/cdr_complete_Fampyra_Nov-30-12.pdf
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on February 18, 2013. DBC considered the following: final review completed by the CDR on November 30, 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 16 patients, 2 caregivers, and 1 patient group, Clinical Practice Reviews from 2 specialists, Manufacturer comments, as well as a Budget Impact Assessment
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, when compared to placebo showed increase in walking speed, but the clinical significance of this finding is unclear. • There was no difference found between fampridine and placebo patients in the quality of life assessment. • Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug was not cost effective.
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.