

# 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>Lurasidone</b>
Brand Name	Latuda™
Dosage Form(s)	40 mg, 80 mg, 120 mg
Manufacturer	Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.
<b>Submission Review</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	Latuda™ is used to treat the acute symptoms of schizophrenia.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	CDR recommended Do not list. <a href="http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/cdr_complete_Latuda_Jan-25-13_e.pdf">http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/cdr_complete_Latuda_Jan-25-13_e.pdf</a>
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on May 13, 2013. The DBC considered the following: the final review completed by the Common Drug Review (CDR) on January 23, 2013, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendation from the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC); Clinical Practice Reviews from two Specialists, Manufacturer comments, responses to Patient Input Questionnaires from one patient group, and a Budget Impact Analysis.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-Benefit</b>
Date	September 19, 2013
Reason(s)	<p><b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The drug was not directly compared to any of the other antipsychotics, some of which are eligible PharmaCare benefits. Thus, there is insufficient evidence that the drug is better than these alternatives.</li> <li>• At the time when the drug submission was submitted by the manufacturer for review, lurasidone was only approved for the acute treatment of schizophrenia, and efficacy beyond six weeks has not been evaluated in controlled studies.</li> <li>• Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug is not cost effective.</li> </ul>
Other Information	

### 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](http://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.