

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	apixaban
Brand Name	Eliquis [®]
Dosage Form(s)	2.5 mg
Manufacturer	Bristol-Myers Squibb Canada Inc.
Submission Review	New Submission
Use Reviewed	Apixaban was reviewed for the prevention of venous thromboembolic events (VTE) in patients who have undergone elective knee or hip replacement surgery.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes. http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/cdr_complete_Eliquis_June-18-12_e.pdf
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on September 10, 2012. The DBC considered: the final review completed by the Common Drug Review (CDR) on June 14, 2012, 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, and a Budget Impact Analysis. There were no responses to Patient Input Questionnaires from patients, caregivers, and patient groups.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage benefit http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/sa/criteria/restricted/apixaban-vte.html
Date	December 10, 2013
Reason(s)	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The clinical efficacy review of apixaban for VTE included three trials. In two of the three trials, apixaban was more effective than active comparator, enoxaparin, with respect to efficacy. The manufacturer used a composite of: the end-of-treatment incidence of all VTE, including non-fatal pulmonary embolism; both symptomatic and asymptomatic deep vein thrombosis (DVT); and death from any cause as a measure of effectiveness (primary efficacy outcome). Apixaban was similar to enoxaparin in important safety outcomes, such as: incidence of major bleeding, clinically-relevant non-major bleeding, and any bleeding. The daily cost of apixaban is lower than rivaroxaban, low molecular weight heparins (LMWHs) enoxaparin, daltepatin, tinzaparin, and nadroparin at list prices. Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, apixaban was cost effective and offered value for money.
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.