

# 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>nebivolol</b>
Brand Name	Bystolic®
Dosage Form(s)	2.5 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg and 20 mg tablets
Manufacturer	Forest Laboratories Canada Inc.
<b>Submission Review</b>	<b>New submission</b>
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of mild to moderate essential hypertension.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	CDR recommended not to list nebivolol at the submitted price for the treatment of mild to moderate essential hypertension. <a href="http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/CDR_complete_Bystolic_July-22-13_e.pdf">http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/CDR_complete_Bystolic_July-22-13_e.pdf</a>
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on October 21, 2013. DBC considered the final review completed by the Common Drug Review (CDR) on July 18, 2013, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendation from the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC); Clinical Practice Reviews from a General Practitioner and Specialist; Manufacturer comments; responses to Patient Input Questionnaires from one patient, one caregiver, and one patient group; and a Budget Impact Analysis.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Non-benefit</b>
Date	March 25, 2014
Reason(s)	<b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation which was not to list at the submitted price.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nebivolol did not demonstrate advantages over comparator drugs with respect to efficacy and safety.</li> <li>• Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, nebivolol was significantly more expensive than other beta-blockers PharmaCare reimburses for the treatment of essential hypertension and therefore was considered not cost effective.</li> </ul>
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 drug's 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 Medical Beneficiary and Pharmaceutical Services Division and the PharmaCare program, visit [www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare](http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare).

**This document is intended for information only.**

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