

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	eplerenone
Brand Name	Inspra®
Dosage Form(s)	25 mg tablet, 50 mg tablet
Manufacturer	Pfizer Canada Inc.
Submission Review	New Indication
Use Reviewed	Heart failure, NYHA class II
Common Drug Review (CDR)	CDR recommended Do not list at the submitted price. Visit CDR website for more details: http://www.cadth.ca/media/cdr/complete/cdr_complete_SR0342_Inspra_Apr-28_14.pdf
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on June 9, 2014. DBC considered various inputs including: the final review completed by the CDR on April 24, 2014, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendation. The DBC also considered Patient Input Questionnaire responses from one patient, Clinical Practice Reviews from two specialists, as well as a Budget Impact Assessment.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	November 18, 2014
Reason(s)	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the available evidence, eplerenone reduces the risk of death from heart-related causes and first hospitalization for heart failure compared to placebo in patients with NYHA class II systolic chronic heart failure. However, eplerenone was not compared to spironolactone, which is also used as adjunct in patients with heart failure. It is uncertain if eplerenone provides clinical benefit compared to spironolactone. Eplerenone is more costly than spironolactone.
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.

This document is intended for information only.

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