

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	dexamethasone
Brand Name	Ozurdex®
Dosage Form(s)	Intravitreal Implant 0.7 mg
Manufacturer	Allergan Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of adult patients with diabetic macular edema who are pseudophakic.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: Do Not Reimburse . Visit the CDR website for more details: www.cadth.ca/node/88649
Provincial Review	Ozurdex® was reviewed by the Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) Joint Accountability Committee, and program staff at the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA).
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	February 26, 2019
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the AMD Joint Accountability Committee's and CDR's Canadian Drug Expert Committee's recommendations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The drug did not demonstrate advantages over comparators with respect to efficacy, safety and quality of life. Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug was not cost effective and did not offer 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 \(DBC\)](#) gives advice to the Ministry. The DBC looks at:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- advice from a national group called the [Common Drug Review \(CDR\)](#)
- what the drug costs and whether it is a good value for the people of B.C.
- ethical considerations involved with covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes PharmaCare coverage decisions by taking into account:

- the existing PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the DBC
- the drugs already covered by PharmaCare that are used to treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit the [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#) and [Ministry of Health - PharmaCare](#) for more information.

This document is intended for information only.

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