

Drug Coverage Decision for BC PharmaCare

About PharmaCare

BC PharmaCare is a publicly funded drug plan that helps B.C. residents pay for most prescription drugs and pharmacy services, and some medical devices and supplies.

Details of Drug Reviewed

Drug	drospirenone
Brand name	Slynd
Dosage form	4 mg oral tablet
Manufacturer	Duchesnay Inc.
Submission type	New Submission
Indication reviewed	For conception control in adolescent and adult women.
Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC) Clinical Reimbursement Reviews (CRR)	CDA-AMC recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions. Visit the CRR website for more information: Drospirenone (Slynd)
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	The DBC now screens drug submissions under review by CRR to determine whether or not a full DBC review is necessary, based on past DBC reviews, recommendations, and existing PharmaCare coverage. If a full DBC review is determined to not be required, the Ministry's drug coverage decision will be based on the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommendation and an internal review only. The DBC screened drospirenone. Since drospirenone is similar to other drugs that were previously reviewed by DBC for conception control, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for drospirenone.
Drug Coverage Decision	Regular Benefit
Date	December 10, 2024

<p>Reason(s)</p>	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation that Slynd be reimbursed for conception control in adolescent and adult women only if it does not exceed the drug program treatment cost of other progestrin-only contraceptive pills (POPs).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence from 3 clinical trials demonstrated that Slynd was effective in preventing pregnancy in adult women. • Slynd may meet patients' needs for improved convenience with its more flexible administration schedule. • The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance negotiations with the manufacturer which were able to address the concerns identified by the CDEC with respect to the cost value and price. • Slynd is 100% covered as a regular benefit under Assurance Policy (Plan Z) and Income Assistance (Plan C). • The listing will support the Minister of Health's 2020 mandate letter which includes the commitment to make prescription contraception free for all British Columbia residents and providing contraceptive of choice at no cost, which can increase better family planning and compliance
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The drug review process in B.C.

A manufacturer submits a request to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry).

An independent group called the [Drug Benefit Council \(DBC\)](#) gives advice to the Ministry by considering:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- advice from a national group called [Canada's Drug and Health Technology Agency \(CADTH\)](#)
- what the drug costs and whether funding it provides good value to the province
- ethical considerations of covering and not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a BC PharmaCare coverage decision by taking into account:

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

Visit [BC PharmaCare](#) and [Drug reviews](#) 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.