

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	etanercept
Brand Name	Brenzys™
Dosage Forms	50 mg/mL solution for injection in a pre-filled syringe and pre-filled auto-injector
Manufacturer	Merck Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and ankylosing spondylitis (AS)
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDR website for more details: https://www.cadth.ca/about-cadth/what-we-do/products-services/cdr/reports
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on November 7, 2016. DBC considered various inputs including: the final reviews completed by the CDR on October 25, 2016, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendations from the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC). The DBC also considered Patient Input Questionnaire responses from 6 patients and one Patient Group, CDR patient input, Clinical Practice Reviews from one specialist, and a Budget Impact Assessment.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the Brenzys criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority
Date	July 18, 2017
Reasons	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drug was similar to the reference etanercept product (Enbrel®) with respect to efficacy and safety. • Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug 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 \(DBC\)](#) 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.