

# 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>etanercept</b>
Brand Name	Erelzi™
Dosage Forms	50 mg/mL solution for injection prefilled auto-injector, 50 mg/mL solution for injection prefilled syringe, 25 mg/0.5 mL solution for injection prefilled syringe
Manufacturer	Sandoz Canada Inc.
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>New Indication</b>
Use Reviewed	Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA)
Common Drug Review (CDR)	No, CDR did not review
Provincial Review	In October 2017, the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH) provided confirmation to Sandoz that a CDR submission for Erelzi for the new indication of psoriatic arthritis is not required; as such, a full Drug Benefit Council (DBC) review is not required and the Ministry's drug coverage decision will be based on an internal review only.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the <a href="http://www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority">Erelzi</a> criteria from <a href="http://www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority">www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority</a></b>
Date	April 9, 2019
Reasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The drug was similar to the reference drug, etanercept (Enbrel®), with respect to efficacy, safety, pharmacokinetics and immunogenicity.</li> <li>• Based on a clinical trial for Erelzi, the results suggested that switching from Enbrel to Erelzi and vice-versa can be performed safely and without any loss of efficacy.</li> <li>• Based on economic considerations and the product price, the drug was cost effective and offered value for money.</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 \(DBC\)](#) 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.