

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 Form(s)	Solution for injection in a pre-filled syringe Solution for injection in a pre-filled auto injector
Manufacturer	Merck Canada Inc.
Submission Type	Modification of Criteria
Use Reviewed	Polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis Psoriatic Arthritis
Common Drug Review (CDR)	No, CDR did not review
Provincial Review	Brenzys® was reviewed internally and was not reviewed by the Drug Benefit Council (DBC) as this was a modification of criteria supported by the new Health Canada indication.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage Benefit Access the Brenzys criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority
Date	February 18, 2021
Reason(s)	Limited coverage modification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brenzys is a biosimilar of the reference product Enbrel and has a Health Canada indication for RA (adult), pJIA, PsA (Adult), AS, and PsO (adult). Health Canada issued a Notice of Compliance for these indications based on data extrapolation in addition to the demonstrated similarity to the reference product in quality, biological activity, efficacy, safety and immunogenicity Previously Brenzys was not indicated for PsA and pJIA and therefore was not a limited coverage benefit for those specific indications.
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 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.