

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	evolocumab
Brand name	Repatha®
Dosage form(s)	140 mg/mL prefilled syringe or autoinjector for subcutaneous injection
Manufacturer	Amgen Canada Inc.
Submission type	Resubmission
Indication reviewed	For additional lowering of low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) in adult patients with recent acute coronary syndrome (ACS) event.
Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC) Clinical Reimbursement Reviews	The Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDA-AMC website for more details .
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	The DBC now screens drug submissions under review by CDA-AMC 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 Repatha. Since Repatha was already reviewed by the DBC in 2017 for further reduction of LDL-C in patients with clinical atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) and for patients with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (HeFH) the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for Repatha. Patients with a recent ACS event represent a subset of the ASCVD population.

Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage benefit
Date	August 12, 2026
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with CDEC recommendation to cover Repatha for further reduction of elevated LDL-C in adult patients with a recent ACS defined as a hospitalized index ACS to 52 weeks post index ACS. • Evidence from subgroup analyses of a clinical trial suggested that evolocumab reduced the risk of cardiovascular (CV) events in patients with a recent ACS event that is within one year. These findings are consistent with the results in the overall trial population with ASCVD receiving optimized statin therapy. • Evolocumab may meet some unmet needs important to patients and clinicians, including further reducing cholesterol levels, which is associated with a reduction in the risk of heart attacks or other CV events, in patients who cannot meet their cholesterol targets with available treatment options or who cannot tolerate statins. • Based on CDA-AMC's assessment of the health economic evidence, evolocumab does not represent good value to the health care system at the public list price. A price reduction is therefore required. • The Ministry of Health (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-effectiveness and value for money for patients with a recent ACS that is within one year.

The drug review process in B.C.

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

An independent national organization called Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC) provides evidence-based recommendations to public drug plans across Canada through its reimbursement review process. As part of the CDA-AMC's Clinical Reimbursement Review (CRR) process, the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) makes reimbursement recommendations for non-oncology pharmaceuticals to the participating federal, provincial, and territorial publicly funded drug plans. In developing its recommendations, the CDEC considers:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- what the drug costs and whether funding it provides good value
- ethical considerations of covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a BC PharmaCare coverage decision by considering:

- existing BC PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the CDA-AMC's CRR
- the recommendations and reimbursement conditions of the CDEC
- if a Ministry Initiated review, the advice of an independent expert group called the Drug Benefit Council (DBC)
- BC-specific patient input collected through the Your Voice website
- drugs already covered by BC PharmaCare that treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug
- the outcomes of pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) negotiations with manufacturers

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

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