

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	fluticasone furoate-vilanterol
Brand Name	Breo® Ellipta®
Dosage Forms	100 mcg/25 mcg, 200 mcg/25 mcg dry powder for inhalation
Manufacturer	GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
Submission Type	New Indication
Use Reviewed	Asthma
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes. The CDR recommended: List with criteria. Visit the CDR website for more details: https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0442_complete_Breo%20Ellipta-Feb-22-16_e.pdf
Provincial Review	The Drug Benefit Council (DBC) now screens drug submissions under review by the CDR 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 not to 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 fluticasone furoate-vilanterol and advised that because fluticasone furoate-vilanterol is similar to some of the other drugs used for the treatment of asthma, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for fluticasone furoate-vilanterol.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the fluticasone furoate-vilanterol criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority
Date	September 13, 2016
Reasons	The Ministry reviewed clinical evidence and pharmacoeconomic reports prepared by the CDR, and the Final CDEC Recommendation. Patient input was collected through Your Voice but no input was received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluticasone furoate-vilanterol showed advantage over inhaled corticosteroid alone in reducing exacerbations among patients at higher risk for exacerbations, and for improving lung function. • However, there is a lack of direct comparison of fluticasone furoate-vilanterol with other inhaled corticosteroid/long-acting beta-agonist combination products. • The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance negotiations with manufacturer for fluticasone furoate-vilanterol, and the participating jurisdictions were able to reach an agreement with the manufacturer.
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:

- advice from a national group called the [Common Drug Review](#)
- whether the drug is safe and effective
- whether it is a good value for the people of B.C.
- the ethics of covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a decision based on many factors, including:

- advice from the DBC
- drugs used to treat similar medical conditions that B.C. PharmaCare already covers
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit the B.C. [Drug Review Process](#) and [PharmaCare](#) program 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.