

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	fostamatinib
Brand Name	Tavalisse®
Dosage Form(s)	100 mg and 150 mg oral tablets
Manufacturer	Medison Pharma Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of chronic immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) in adult patients
Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)	The Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommended: Do Not Reimburse . Visit the CRR website for more details: http://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/DRR/2022/SR0701_Tavalisse - CADTH Final Rec-meta.pdf
Provincial Review	Fostamatinib was reviewed internally and was not reviewed by the Drug Benefit Council (DBC) because the CDEC recommended not to list for the treatment of thrombocytopenia in adult patients with chronic ITP who have had an insufficient response to other treatments.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	January 31, 2023
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CDEC recommended that fostamatinib should not be reimbursed for the treatment of thrombocytopenia in adult patients with chronic ITP who have had an insufficient response to other treatments.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CDEC considered two randomized controlled trials that suggested fostamatinib may increase the likelihood of a stable platelet response after 24 weeks by 14% to 18% compared with placebo, but only one study showed statistically significant results. Fostamatinib did not significantly reduce bleeding occurrence or severity compared to placebo, and the effect of fostamatinib on health-related quality of life was unclear. • The CDEC concluded that the clinical benefit of treatment with fostamatinib was uncertain due to the inconsistent results between studies, a lack of comparative data to currently available therapeutic options for chronic ITP, and limitations of the available evidence. • There is also a lack of evidence to support the specific manufacturer’s reimbursement request (i.e., inadequate response to other treatments), and therefore, the place in therapy of fostamatinib for the treatment of chronic ITP could not be established. • Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug was not cost effective for the treatment of thrombocytopenia in adult patients with chronic ITP who have had an insufficient response to other treatments. • The pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) did not negotiate with the manufacturer of fostamatinib as the drug was not recommended for reimbursement by the CDEC.
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 [Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health \(CADTH\) Reimbursement Reviews\(CRR\)](#)
- 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.