

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	halobetasol propionate and tazarotene
Brand Name	Duobrii™
Dosage Form(s)	halobetasol propionate (0.01%) and tazarotene (0.045%)
Manufacturer	Bausch Health, Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	Plaque psoriasis
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDR website for more details: https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0638%20Duobrii%20-%20CDEC%20Final%20Recommendation%20October%2030%2C%202020_For%20Posting.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 to not be required, the Ministry's drug coverage decision will be based on the CDEC recommendation and an internal review only. The DBC screened halobetasol propionate and tazarotene and advised that because halobetasol propionate and tazarotene is similar to other drugs used for the treatment of plaque psoriasis, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for halobetasol propionate and tazarotene.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	April 19, 2022
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halobetasol propionate and tazarotene demonstrated advantage over vehicle in skin clearance. • Halobetasol propionate and tazarotene was not compared to other more affordable topical treatment options used in treatment of plaque psoriasis. • Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the halobetasol propionate and tazarotene was not cost-effective and did not offer value for money.
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.