

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	insulin degludec
Brand Name	Tresiba®
Dosage Form(s)	100 U/mL and 200 U/mL solution for injection
Manufacturer	Novo Nordisk Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	For the for once-daily treatment of adults with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes mellitus
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDR website for more details: www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0521_Tresiba_complete_Nov-22-17_e.pdf .
Provincial Review	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 Tresiba on November 6, 2017. The DBC advised that, because insulin degludec is a long-acting insulin similar to other long-acting insulins, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for insulin degludec.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	June 12, 2018
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CDR recommended that insulin degludec be reimbursed with a condition that the overall drug plan costs for insulin degludec should not exceed the cost of treatment with the least costly long-acting insulin analogue reimbursed for the treatment of diabetes mellitus. A the manufacturer submitted price, Tresiba was similar in price to insulin detemir but more expensive than insulin glargine. Based on clinical evidence reviewed by the CDR and the Ministry, Tresiba does not offer clinical or safety advantages over other long-acting insulins (insulin glargine or insulin detemir).
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 [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.