

# 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

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Lipase/amylase/protease</b>
Brand Name	Creon Minimicropheres® 35
Dosage Form(s)	35,000 Ph. Eur. units / 35,7000 Ph. Eur. units / 2,240 Ph. Eur. units
Manufacturer	Viartis Canada (a BGP Pharma ULC Company)
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>Line Extension</b>
Use Reviewed	Pancreatic exocrine insufficiency (PEI) attribute to cystic fibrosis (CF), chronic pancreatitis (CP), or any other medically defined pancreatic disease that might require pancreatic enzyme therapy including, but not limited to: pancreatic surgery, gastrectomy, pancreatic cancer, gastrointestinal bypass surgery, ductal obstruction of the pancreas or common bile duct, Shwachman-Diamond Syndrome and status after an attack of acute attack of acute pancreatitis and initiation of enteral or oral feeding
Common Drug Review (CDR)	No, CDR did not review
Provincial Review	Creon Minimicropheres® 35 was reviewed internally and was not reviewed by the Drug Benefit Council (DBC) because this was a line extension of Creon Minimicropheres® 10, Creon Minimicropheres® 25, and Creon Minimicropheres® Micro.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Regular Benefit</b>
Date	August 19, 2021

Reason(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creon Minimicrophere®s 35 is a line extension that will provide physicians and patients with a higher strength for the treatment of PEI attributed to CF, CP or any other medically defined pancreatic disease that might require pancreatic enzyme therapy.</li> <li>• The increased number of strengths available for the treatment of PEI, offers an important advantage of greater flexibility in dosing, which, in turn, allows for enhanced dosage optimization for patients.</li> <li>• The inclusion of Creon Minimicropheres® 35 to treatment regimens will help to reduce the pill burden experienced by patients with PEI, and as a result, may improve compliance.</li> <li>• Creon 6 Minimicropheres was phased out globally and replaced with Creon Micro in 2018. Currently, Creon Minimicropheres® 25 is experiencing a shortage in Canada.</li> <li>• Creon Minimicropheres® 35 is less expensive per capsule than combining the 10 and 25 capsules.</li> </ul>
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.