



Drug Coverage Decision for BC PharmaCare

About PharmaCare

BC PharmaCare is a publicly funded drug plan that helps B.C. residents pay for most prescription drugs and pharmacy services, and some medical devices and supplies.

Details of Drug Reviewed

Drug	maralixibat
Brand name	Livmarli®
Dosage form(s)	19 mg/mL oral solution 10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, and 30 mg oral tablets
Manufacturer	Mirum Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Submission type	New Submission
Indication reviewed	The treatment of cholestatic pruritus in patients aged 12 months or older with progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis (PFIC)
Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC) Reimbursement Reviews Process	The Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDA-AMC website for more details .
Ministry of Health (the Ministry) Review	The Ministry reviewed reports prepared by the CDA-AMC's reimbursement review process, including clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendations of the CDEC. The Ministry also considered patient input provided to CDEC and a budget impact assessment. The Ministry did not receive any eligible responses to the <i>Your Voice</i> patient input questionnaire from patients or patient groups.
Drug Coverage Decision	Exceptional Coverage Through the Expensive Drugs for Rare Diseases (EDRD) Process
Date	August 11, 2026
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation. Evidence from one randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial (MARCH; N = 93) demonstrated that treatment with maralixibat for 26

	weeks resulted in clinically meaningful improvement in itching compared with placebo in patients with PFIC. Improvements were observed across multiple itch-related end points, including patient- and observer-reported itch and scratching measures, as well as supportive biochemical markers of cholestasis. • There is limited evidence regarding the long-term safety and efficacy of maralixibat as well as the drug's potential in delaying the course of the disease and avoiding or delaying the need for liver transplant. • Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug was not cost effective and did not offer optimal value for money. • The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance negotiations with the manufacturer which were able to address the concerns identified by the CDEC with respect to the cost-effectiveness and value for money.
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The drug review process in B.C.

A manufacturer submits a request to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry).

An independent national organization called Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC) provides evidence-based recommendations to public drug plans across Canada through its reimbursement review process. As part of the CDA-AMC's Clinical Reimbursement Review process, the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) makes reimbursement recommendations for non-oncology pharmaceuticals to the participating federal, provincial, and territorial publicly funded drug plans. In developing its recommendations, the CDEC considers:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- what the drug costs and whether funding it provides good value
- ethical considerations of covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a BC PharmaCare coverage decision by considering:

- existing BC PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the CDA-AMC
- the recommendations and reimbursement conditions of the CDEC
- if a Ministry Initiated review, the advice of an independent expert group called the Drug Benefit Council (DBC)
- BC-specific patient input collected through the Your Voice website
- drugs already covered by BC PharmaCare that treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug
- the outcomes of pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) negotiations with manufacturers

Visit [BC PharmaCare](#) and [Drug reviews](#) 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.