

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

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| Drug | Methadone |
| Brand Name | Metadol-D [®] |
| Dosage Form(s) | 10 mg/mL oral concentrate |
| Manufacturer | Paladin Labs Inc. |
| Submission Type | New Submission |
| Use Reviewed | Treatment of Opioid Dependence |
| Common Drug Review (CDR) | No, CDR did not review |
| Provincial Review | Metadol -D [™] was reviewed internally and was not reviewed by the Drug Benefit Council (DBC). |
| Drug Coverage Decision | Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the Metadol -D[™] criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority |
| Date | March 26, 2019 |
| Reasons | <p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the Ministry internal review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drug was similar to or demonstrated some advantage over Methadose[®] with respect to efficacy and quality of life. • Based on economic considerations, the drug is cost-effective and offers value for money. |
| Other Information | This listing was initiated by medical specialists and the British Columbia Association of People on Methadone (BCAPOM) who requested additional methadone options for patients suffering opioid dependence, in addition to cherry flavored Methadose [®] (methadone) 10 mg/mL solution. Metadol-D [®] provides patients with an increased number of options to assist with their abstinence from riskier opioid use; thereby lowering the barriers to treatment for patients with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). |

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.