



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	risperidone
Brand name	Okedi®
Dosage forms	75 mg and 100 mg, powder for extended-release suspension for intramuscular injection
Manufacturer	Bausch Health, Canada Inc.
Submission type	New Submission
Indication reviewed	For the treatment of schizophrenia in adults
Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC) Clinical Reimbursement Reviews (CRR)	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 clinical and pharmacoeconomic combined reports prepared by the CDA-AMC's CRR, including clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendations of the CDEC. The Ministry also considered patient input provided to CDA-AMC CRR and clinical pharmacist input. The Ministry did not receive any Your Voice patient input questionnaire responses from patients, caregivers, or patient groups, and no responses to clinical questions from a specialist.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage benefit.
Date	July 22, 2026

Reasons	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation that Okedi should be reimbursed by public drug plans for the treatment of schizophrenia in adults if certain conditions are met. • Evidence from bioequivalence studies showed that exposure to risperidone's active moiety with Okedi was only slightly higher than with once-daily oral risperidone, supporting comparable clinical effects. Additionally, a clinical trial demonstrated improvements in schizophrenia symptoms and disease severity with Okedi compared with placebo. • Based on CDA-AMC's assessment, Okedi may provide good value at the public list price; however, its cost should not exceed that of the least costly reimbursed atypical long-acting injectable (LAI) antipsychotic, as there is insufficient evidence to support a price premium. • The Ministry participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) 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.