

# 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>	rotigotine
Brand Name	Neupro®
Dosage Forms	2 mg/24 hour, 4 mg/24 hour, 6 mg/24 hour, 8 mg/24 hour transdermal patches
Manufacturer	UCB Canada Inc.
<b>Submission Type</b>	<b>Resubmission</b>
Use Reviewed	Advanced stage Parkinson's disease (APD)
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: <b>to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions</b> . Visit the CDR website for more details: <a href="https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0432_complete_Neupro_Resb_Nov-24-15_e.pdf">https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0432_complete_Neupro_Resb_Nov-24-15_e.pdf</a>
Provincial Review	The Drug Benefit Council (DBC) now screens drug submissions under review by the Common Drug Review (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 Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) recommendation and an internal review only. The DBC screened the rotigotine resubmission on August 31, 2015. The DBC advised that because rotigotine is similar to some of the other drugs used for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, such as bromocriptine, pramipexole and ropinirole, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for rotigotine.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the rotigotine criteria from <a href="http://www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority">www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority</a></b>
Date	November 13, 2018
Reasons	<b>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation of November 19, 2015.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The drug was similar to ropinirole with respect to improving motor function in patients with APD who are taking levodopa. The drug was also similar to pramipexole with respect to change from baseline in time spent <i>off</i>.</li> <li>• The drug demonstrated advantages compared to placebo with respect to improvements in motor function in patients with APD.</li> <li>• 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.</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 [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.