

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

Drug	Sacubitril-valsartan
Brand Name	Entresto™
Dosage Form(s)	24 mg/26 mg, 49 mg/51 mg, 97 mg/103 mg
Manufacturer	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of heart failure with reduced ejection fraction in patients with New York Heart Association (NYHA) class II or III, to reduce the incidence of cardiovascular death and heart failure hospitalisation.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions. Visit the CDR website for more details: www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0447_complete_Entresto-Mar-22_e.pdf
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on April 4, 2016. DBC considered various inputs including: general inputs (e.g. CDR, CER, PER and CDR Patient Group Input Submissions) and Clinical Practice Reviews from one general physician and two specialists. There were no Patient Input Questionnaire responses from patients, caregivers or Patient Groups.
Drug Coverage Decision	Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the sacubitril-valsartan criteria from www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority
Date	March 6, 2018
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the DBC recommendation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One double-blind, randomized controlled trial demonstrated that treatment with sacubitril-valsartan reduced the risk of cardiovascular mortality or hospitalisation for heart failure compared with enalapril. • At the submitted price sacubitril-valsartan is considered cost-effective but its annual cost is higher than the annual cost of all current treatments for heart failure. • BC participated in the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) negotiations with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. and an agreement was reached.
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.