



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	somapacitan
Brand name	Sogroya®
Dosage form(s)	5 mg/1.5 mL (3.3 mg/mL), 10 mg/1.5 mL (6.7 mg/mL), and 15 mg/1.5 mL (10 mg/mL), pre-filled pens for subcutaneous use
Manufacturer	Novo Nordisk Canada Inc.
Submission type	New Submission
Indication reviewed	For long-term treatment of pediatric patients who have growth failure due to an inadequate secretion of endogenous growth hormone (Growth Hormone Deficiency or GHD)
Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC) Clinical Reimbursement Reviews	CDA-AMC recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions. Visit the CRR website for more details .
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	The DBC now screens drug submissions under review by the CDA-AMC 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 Sogroya. Since Sogroya is similar to other drugs that were previously reviewed by DBC for the long-term treatment of pediatric patients who have growth failure due to GHD, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for Sogroya.

Drug Coverage Decision	Non-benefit
Date	December 17, 2024
Reason(s)	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDEC recommendation that Sogroya be reimbursed for the long-term treatment of pediatric patients who have growth failure due to an inadequate secretion of endogenous growth hormone (GHD) if it does not exceed the drug program cost of treatment with the least costly somatropin reimbursed for the treatment of pediatric patients with GHD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence from a clinical trial demonstrated that weekly injections of Sogroya work the same as daily injections of somatropin (Norditropin) in terms of growth outcomes; children who took weekly injections of Sogroya grew at the same rate as children who took daily injections of somatropin (Norditropin). • There is a need for a treatment that might improve adherence, and a treatment that is taken once a week, such as Sogroya, may address that need. • Based on CDA-AMC's assessment of the health economic evidence, Sogroya does not represent good value to the health care system at the public list price. The CDEC determined that there is not enough evidence to justify a greater cost for somapacitan compared with somatrogen and somatropin. • Due to the delay in supply of Sogroya in Canada as noted by Novo Nordisk Canada Inc., the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) jurisdictions have decided to not engage in negotiations through the pCPA process at this time.

The drug review process in B.C.

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

An independent group called the [Drug Benefit Council \(DBC\)](#) gives advice to the Ministry by considering:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- advice from a national group called [Canada's Drug and Health Technology Agency \(CADTH\)](#)
- what the drug costs and whether funding it provides good value to the province
- ethical considerations of covering and not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a BC PharmaCare coverage decision by taking into account:

- existing BC PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the DBC
- drugs already covered by BC PharmaCare that treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

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.