

# 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>	<b>stiripentol</b>
Brand Name	Diacomit™
Dosage Forms	250 mg capsule, 500 mg capsule, 250 mg per pack powder for suspension, 500 mg per pack powder for suspension
Manufacturer	Optum Insight (Canada) Inc.
<b>Submission Review</b>	<b>New Submission</b>
Use Reviewed	Severe myoclonic epilepsy in infancy (Dravet syndrome)
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes. CDR recommended to <b>List with criteria</b> . Visit the CDR website for more details: <a href="http://www.cadth.ca/node/88649">www.cadth.ca/node/88649</a> .
Drug Benefit Council (DBC)	DBC met on October 20, 2014. DBC considered various inputs including: the final review completed by the Common Drug Review (CDR) on October 16, 2014, which included clinical and pharmacoeconomic evidence review material and the recommendation from the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC). The DBC also considered Patient Input Questionnaire responses from one Patient Group; Clinical Practice Reviews from two specialists; as well as a Budget Impact Analysis.
<b>Drug Coverage Decision</b>	<b>Limited Coverage Benefit. Access the stiripentol criteria from <a href="http://www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority">www.gov.bc.ca/pharmacarespecialauthority</a></b>
Date	July 7, 2015
Reasons	<p><b>Drug coverage decision is inconsistent with the DBC recommendation.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The drug demonstrated some advantage over placebo when combined with clobazam and valproate with respect to reducing seizure frequency in patients with Dravet syndrome.</li> <li>The Ministry of Health was able to address the concerns identified by the DBC regarding the cost effectiveness and value for money of this drug.</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:

- advice from a national group called the Common Drug Review
- whether the drug is safe and effective
- whether it is a good value for the people of B.C.
- the ethics of covering or not covering the drug
- input from physicians, patients, caregivers, patient groups and drug submission sponsors

The Ministry makes a decision based on many factors, including:

- advice from the DBC
- drugs used to treat similar medical conditions that B.C. PharmaCare already covers
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit the B.C. [Drug Review Process](#) and [PharmaCare](#) program 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.