

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	tesamorelin
Brand Name	Egrifta®
Dosage Forms	1 mg vial
Manufacturer	Theratechnologies Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	For the treatment of excess visceral adipose tissue (VAT) in treatment-experienced adult human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-infected patients with lipodystrophy.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: Do Not Reimburse . Visit the CDR website for more details: https://www.cadth.ca/about-cadth/what-we-do/products-services/cdr/reports
Provincial Review	Egrifta™ was reviewed internally and was not reviewed by the Drug Benefit Council (DBC) because the CDR recommended not to list for the treatment of excess visceral adipose tissue (VAT) in treatment-experienced adult HIV-infected patients with lipodystrophy.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	December 13, 2016
Reason(s)	<p>Drug coverage decision is consistent with the CDR recommendation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The drug did not demonstrate benefit with respect to patient-reported outcomes, such as body image, and in the reduction of cardiovascular events. • There is no long-term safety data available which is concerning because tesamorelin may be used for extended periods of time. • Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug was not cost effective.
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.