

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	travoprost
Brand Name	Izba™
Dosage Form(s)	0.003% ophthalmic solution with polyquaternium-1 (PQ)
Manufacturer	Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada, inc. on behalf of Alcon Canada Inc.
Submission Type	New Submission
Use Reviewed	The reduction of elevated intraocular pressure in patients with open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension.
Common Drug Review (CDR)	Yes, CDR recommended: to Reimburse with clinical criteria and/or conditions . Visit the CDR website for more details: https://www.cadth.ca/sites/default/files/cdr/complete/SR0516_izba_complete_Oct-30-17.pdf
Provincial Review	DBC now screens drug submissions under review by the 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 CDEC recommendation and an internal review only. The DBC screened travoprost 0.003% with PQ on November 6, 2017. The DBC advised that because travoprost 0.003% with PQ is similar to some of the other drugs used for the treatment of open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension, the Ministry may accept the CDEC's recommendation for travoprost 0.003% with PQ.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	May 29, 2018
Reason(s)	<p>The CDEC recommended that the drug be listed for the reduction of elevated intraocular pressure in patients with open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension with a condition that the drug plan cost of treatment with travoprost should not exceed the drug plan cost of treatment with the least costly alternative prostaglandin analogue. Based on British Columbia's provincial review of travoprost, the drug does not meet any unmet clinical needs and the cost of travoprost is similar to currently available drugs used for open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension, such as travoprost 0.004% (Travatan Z® and generics) and more costly than latanoprost 0.005% (Xalatan® and generics); as such, PharmaCare decided that travoprost 0.003% should not be listed as an eligible PharmaCare benefit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the systematic review, the intracocular pressure lowering efficacy of travoprost 0.003% with PQ was similar to travoprost 0.004% with benzalkonium chloride (BAC). The BAC-preserved formulation is not available in Canada. SofZia-preserved travoprost is available in Canada, but this was never used in the clinical trials. BAC has been associated with tolerability issues and associated with higher incidence of hyperemia compared to SofZia or PQ; therefore, cannot be certain if the safety profile of

	<p>travoprost 0.003% PQ is similar to travoprost 0.004% BAC formulations in Canada.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on economic considerations and the submitted product price, the drug did not offer optimal value for money.
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.