

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	Triamcinolone hexacetonide
Brand Name	N/A
Dosage Form(s)	Suspension in a 20 mg/mL ampoule
Manufacturer	Medexus Inc.
Submission Type	New Indication
Use Reviewed	Triamcinolone hexacetonide injectable suspension is used in adults and adolescents to treat the symptoms of subacute and chronic inflammatory joint diseases including: Rheumatoid arthritis, Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA), Osteoarthritis and post-traumatic arthritis, Inflammation of the membrane that lines the joint (synovitis), Inflammation or irritation of the tendon, a thick cord that attaches bone to muscle (tendinitis), Inflammation or irritation of the bursa, the fluid filled sac located between tissues such as bone, muscle, tendons and skin that decreases rubbing and irritation (bursitis) and Inflammation of the tendons around an epicondyle, the end of a bone, often in the elbow (epicondylitis).
Common Drug Review (CDR)	No, CDR did not review
Provincial Review	Triamcinolone hexacetonide injectable suspension was not reviewed by the Drug Benefit Council (DBC) because this drug does not meet the current eligibility requirements for a new drug or a drug with a new indication and is not eligible for Common Drug Review (CDR) review.
Drug Coverage Decision	Non-Benefit
Date	November 16, 2021
Reason(s)	Drug coverage decision is consistent with the provincial review

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no large, randomized trials comparing various intraarticular glucocorticoid preparations with both toxicity and efficacy as endpoints. • Triamcinolone hexacetonide is available on the health authority formulary for use in the pediatric population as it may require less frequent injections . • The frequency of triamcinolone hexacetonide injection into a single joint is every 3 to 4 weeks as needed. The frequency of injections for the comparators ranges from 1 to 2 weeks for betamethasone acetate, 2 weeks for triamcinolone acetonide, and 1 to 12 weeks for methylprednisolone acetate. • The daily cost of triamcinolone hexacetonide is significantly higher than its comparators.
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 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.