

BC PharmaCare Drug Information

The drug below is being considered for possible coverage under the B.C. PharmaCare program. PharmaCare is a government-funded drug plan that helps British Columbians with the cost of eligible prescription drugs and specific medical supplies. For more information on PharmaCare, visit [Ministry of Health - PharmaCare](#).

PharmaCare reviews each drug for treating a specific illness or medical condition (known as an “indication”). If a decision is made to cover the drug, it will be only for that illness or condition.

In some cases, PharmaCare may cover a drug only for people who have the illness or condition and have not responded to other drugs used to treat that illness or condition.

For more information on PharmaCare’s drug coverage review process, see the last page of this information sheet.

Information about the drug	
Generic name (scientific name)	ombitasvir-paritaprevir-ritonavir and dasabuvir
Brand name	Holkira™ Pak
Manufacturer	AbbVie Corporation
Indication	Holkira™ Pak is indicated for the treatment of chronic (lasting a long time) Hepatitis C genotype 1 infection
Has the drug been reviewed by the Common Drug Review (CDR) (see the note below this table.)	Yes For more information about the CDR’s review of ombitasvir-paritaprevir-ritonavir and dasabuvir (Holkira™ Pak), you can Search the CDR Reports .
Public input start date	Wednesday, April 22, 2015
Public input closing date	Wednesday, May 20, 2015 AT MIDNIGHT
How is the drug taken?	Holkira™ Pak is taken orally (by mouth).
How often is the drug is taken?	Holkira™Pak is taken twice daily.

Information about the drug	
General drug and/or drug study information	<p>Holkira™ Pak is used to treat chronic (long term) hepatitis C genotype 1 infection in adults. HOLKIRA™ PAK combines three types of anti-hepatitis C virus (anti-HCV) drugs to block multiple steps in the replication process of the hepatitis C virus (HCV). This prevents the virus particles from duplicating themselves, allowing your body to clear (remove) the virus from your blood.</p> <p>Holkira™ Pak has been shown to cure chronic hepatitis C infection in the majority of patients. Cure means the HCV is cleared from the patient’s blood (remains at an undetectable level) when measured 3 months after finishing all treatment.</p> <p>Studies looked at the following common outcomes to assess if Holkira™ Pak is helpful and safe for the treatment of chronic Hepatitis C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effectiveness of the hepatitis C treatment using Sustained Virologic Response (SVR) measurement which measures the HCV in the blood twelve weeks after the end of treatment. • The return of the disease or relapse after achieving cure • Quality of life • Death • Bad reactions • Serious bad reactions • Withdrawals due to bad reactions
Other considerations	None

Note:

The Common Drug Review (CDR) is a national organization that reviews drugs on behalf of Canadian public sector plans when manufacturers want to have the jurisdictions provide coverage for the drugs. For detailed information on B.C. PharmaCare’s drug review process, including the role of the CDR in that process, see [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#).

Cost of the drug under review compared to other drugs used to treat the same indication			
generic name (Brand Name) of Drug Comparator	PharmaCare Status (if and how the drug is already covered)	Usual Dose	Annual Cost of Therapy
ombitasvir-paritaprevir-ritonavir and dasabuvir (Holkira™ Pak) in combination with or without ribavirin	Under Review for genotype 1	Two times daily (ribavirin:twice daily)	\$58,653 to \$117,306
ledipasvir-sofosbuvir (Harvoni™)	Limited Coverage for genotype 1	Once daily	\$46,900 to \$140,702

Cost of the drug under review compared to other drugs used to treat the same indication			
generic name (Brand Name) of Drug Comparator	PharmaCare Status (if and how the drug is already covered)	Usual Dose	Annual Cost of Therapy
sofosbuvir (Sovaldi™) in combination with peginterferon alfa plus ribavirin	Limited Coverage for genotype 1, 2 and 3	Once daily (peginterferon alfa: once weekly; ribavirin: twice daily)	\$62,739 (for genotype 1)
simeprevir (Galexos™) in combination with peginterferon alfa plus ribavirin	Limited Coverage for genotype 1	Once daily (peginterferon alfa: once weekly; ribavirin: twice daily)	\$48,303 to \$58,278
boceprevir (Victrelis™) in combination with peginterferon alfa plus ribavirin	Limited Coverage for genotype 1	Three times daily (peginterferon alfa: once weekly; ribavirin: twice daily)	\$38,098 to \$68,460

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 \(Council\)](#) gives advice to the Ministry. The Council looks at:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- advice from a national group called the [Common Drug Review \(CDR\)](#)
- whether the drug is a good value for the people of B.C. and what it costs
- 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 Council
- the drugs already covered by PharmaCare that are used to treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

For more information about the B.C. Drug Review Process, visit: [The Drug Review Process in B.C. - Overview](#).

This document is intended for information only.

It does not take the place of advice from a physician or other qualified health care provider.