

Alzheimer's Drug Therapy Initiative

Coverage Policy Questions

August 31, 2015

QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION	
1.	<p>Overall Coverage Recommendation: Based on the evidence provided, should the British Columbia Ministry of Health (the Ministry) provide PharmaCare coverage of the cholinesterase inhibitor drugs (donepezil, galantamine, and rivastigmine) for the treatment of mild to moderate Alzheimer's Disease? Please explain.</p>
2.	<p>Drug-Specific Coverage Recommendation: Among the cholinesterase inhibitor drugs, does one or more demonstrate greater therapeutic benefit (efficacy, effectiveness, or safety), and if so, how should these be prioritized for PharmaCare coverage?</p> <p>If there are no significant differences, should the most cost-effective drug/product be chosen for coverage? Generics are now available for oral products containing donepezil, galantamine, and rivastigmine (subject to the PharmaCare Low Cost Alternative policy).</p> <p>There is currently no generic available for the rivastigmine transdermal patch. Based on the evidence provided, should rivastigmine patch be a covered option? And if so, should the patch product be covered similar to or tiered behind oral rivastigmine (e.g., option for the patch to be subject to the Low Cost Alternative policy and/or additional Limited Coverage criteria)?</p>
3.	<p>Initial Criteria: Are there subpopulation(s) that demonstrate a particular response to the cholinesterase inhibitor drugs, and if so, should they be included or excluded for initial coverage? If one or more of the cholinesterase inhibitor drugs are recommended for PharmaCare coverage, should the <u>initial</u> criteria be the same as the ADTI criteria, or modified?</p>
4.	<p>Renewal Criteria: Are there subpopulation(s) that demonstrate a particular response to the cholinesterase inhibitor drugs, and if so, should they be included or excluded for ongoing coverage? If one or more of the cholinesterase inhibitor drugs are recommended for PharmaCare coverage, should the <u>renewal</u> criteria be the same as the ADTI criteria, or modified? What is the recommended duration of coverage (i.e., when should a renewal be assessed)?</p>
5.	<p>Long-Term Institutional Care Setting: Based on the evidence provided, should the Ministry provide PharmaCare coverage of the cholinesterase inhibitor drugs in the long-term institutional care setting? If yes, which drugs should be covered and should the coverage criteria be different in the community care setting? If not, please explain.</p>