

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)	vedolizumab
Brand name	Entyvio™
Manufacturer	Takeda Canada Inc.
Indication	Entyvio™ is used to treat Crohn’s disease.
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 vedolizumab (Entyvio™) you can Search the CDR Reports .
Public input start date	August 31, 2016
Public input closing date	September 28, 2016 AT MIDNIGHT
How is the drug taken?	Entyvio™ is taken as an infusion into a vein over a period of time.
How often is the drug is taken?	Entyvio™ is taken as an infusion into a vein at weeks 0, 2 and 6, and then every 8 weeks thereafter.

Information about the drug	
General drug and/or drug study information	<p>Entyvio™ is a monoclonal antibody. It is a laboratory-produced molecule that is engineered to attach to a specific defect in the patient's cells. Monoclonal antibodies mimic the antibodies that the body naturally produces as part of its immune system response to germs, vaccines and other invaders.</p> <p>Entyvio™ works to block the movement of gut-directed white blood cells into the gastrointestinal track. This helps control inflammation and symptoms of Crohn's disease.</p> <p>Entyvio™ may help to reduce some symptoms, induce and maintain remission, reduce or stop the use of corticosteroids and improve the lining of the large intestine.</p> <p>Studies looked at the following common outcomes to assess if Entyvio™ is helpful and safe for the treatment of Crohn's disease:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crohn's disease activity index: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of liquid or soft stools daily ○ Abdominal pain ○ General well-being ○ Whether or not patient took other medication for diarrhea ○ Presence of an abdominal mass ○ Weight changes • Whether or not remission was achieved • Whether or not corticosteroid-free remission was achieved • Any major improvement in any of the patients • Bad reactions • Serious bad reactions • Patients leaving the trial 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
vedolizumab (Entyvio™)	Under Review	One infusion at weeks 0, 2, and 6 and then every 8 weeks thereafter	Year 1: \$27,632 Thereafter: \$22,451

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
adalimumab (Humira®)	Limited Coverage	One injection at week 0, 2 and 4 and then every 2 weeks thereafter	Year 1: \$24, 800 Thereafter: \$20,818
infliximab (Remicade®)	Limited Coverage	One infusion at weeks 0, 2 and 6 and then every 8 weeks thereafter	Year 1: \$32, 654 to \$47, 138 Thereafter: \$25,590 to \$47,138
infliximab (Inflectra™)	Limited Coverage Under Review for this indication	One infusion at weeks 0, 2 and 6 and then every 8 weeks thereafter	Year 1: \$18, 329 to \$25, 082 Thereafter: \$12, 541 to \$25, 082

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

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.