

# BC PharmaCare Drug Information

The drug below is being considered for coverage under the BC PharmaCare program. PharmaCare is a government-funded drug plan that helps B.C. residents with the cost of eligible prescription drugs and medical supplies. For more information about PharmaCare, visit the [PharmaCare website](#).

PharmaCare reviews each drug for treating a specific illness or medical condition (also called an “indication”). If PharmaCare decides to cover a drug, that coverage applies only to the indication(s) specified. In some cases, PharmaCare covers a drug only for people who have not responded to other drugs that treat the same indication.

More information about the PharmaCare drug review process is provided on the last page of this document.

Drug information	
Generic name (scientific name)	<b>maralixibat</b>
Brand name	<b>Livmarli®</b>
Manufacturer	Mirum Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Indication	For the treatment of progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis (PFIC) in patients three months of age and older.
Has the drug been reviewed by CDA-AMC, or will CDA-AMC be reviewing it? (See note below.)	Yes For more information about the CDA-AMC Reimbursement Review (CRR) of maralixibat (Livmarli), <a href="#">Search the CDA-AMC Reports</a> .
Public input start date	Wednesday, <b>December 31, 2025</b>
Public input closing date	Tuesday, <b>January 27, 2026, at 11:59 pm</b>
How is the drug taken?	Maralixibat is taken orally (through the mouth).
How often is the drug taken?	Maralixibat is taken twice a day before a meal.

Drug information	
General drug and/or drug study information	<p>Progressive familial intrahepatic cholestasis (PFIC) is a rare inherited liver disease that starts in infancy or childhood. In PFIC, the liver cannot properly release bile, causing bile acids<sup>a</sup> to build up. This buildup leads to severe itching (pruritus), sleep problems, poor growth, and over time, liver damage that may require a transplant.</p> <p>Maralixibat is a medicine called is an ileal bile acid transporter (IBAT) inhibitor, which works by blocking the recycling of bile acids, lowering their levels in the blood and reducing symptoms like itching.</p> <p>Studies looked at the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Death, all-cause mortality</li> <li>• Transplant for a liver-related adverse event</li> <li>• Change in morning Itch Reported Outcome (Observer) (ItchRO[Obs]) severity score from baseline to Weeks 15-26</li> <li>• Change in total serum bile acid (sBA) levels from baseline to the average of Weeks 18, 22, and 26</li> <li>• Proportion of responders for pruritus and sBA</li> <li>• Change in bilirubin concentrations</li> <li>• Change in growth parameters like height and weight z-scores<sup>b</sup></li> <li>• Health-Related Quality of Life as measured by the Clinician Scratch Scale (CSS) and Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory (PedsQL)</li> <li>• Bad reactions</li> <li>• Serious bad reactions</li> <li>• Patients leaving the trial due to bad reactions</li> <li>• Bad reactions of special interest including diarrhea and elevated transaminases</li> </ul>
Other considerations	None

Note:

CDA-AMC ([Canada's Drug Agency-L'Agence des Médicaments du Canada](#)) is a national organization that reviews drugs on behalf of Canadian public sector plans when drug manufacturers want those plans to provide coverage for the drug. For detailed information about the PharmaCare drug review process,

<sup>a</sup> Bile acids are substances produced by the liver that help with the digestion of fats and help the liver to get rid of waste. Although they are usually helpful, an excessive buildup of bile acids in the liver is harmful.

<sup>b</sup> A z-score is a measurement that tells you how far a particular value is from the average. A score of 0 means the value is equal to the average, while a positive score means the number is higher than average and a negative number is lower than average.

including the role of the CDA-AMC Reimbursement Review (CRR) in that process, visit [How PharmaCare Decides Which Drugs to Cover](#).

Table of Comparators Used to Treat the Same Indication		
Generic Name (Brand Name) of Drug Comparator	Dosage Form	PharmaCare Status (if and how the drug is already covered)
maralixibat (Livmarli)	Solution for oral administration or oral tablet	Under Review
odevixibat (Bylvay™)	Oral capsule	Under Review

### 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 [Canada’s Drug Agency-L’Agence des médicaments du Canada \(CDA-AMC\)](#)
- what the drug costs and whether it is a good value to the citizens of B.C.
- ethical considerations related to 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:

- existing PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the DBC
- the drugs already covered by PharmaCare to treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

For more information about the drug review process in B.C., visit: the [How PharmaCare decides which drugs to cover](#).

**This document provides information only.**

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