

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)	ubrogepant
Brand name	Ubrelvy®
Manufacturer	AbbVie Corporation
Indication	For the acute treatment of migraine, with or without aura, in adults.
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 ubrogepant (Ubrelvy), Search the CDA-AMC Reports .
Public input start date	Wednesday, April 29, 2026
Public input closing date	Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 11:59 pm
How is the drug taken?	Ubrogepant is taken orally (by the mouth).
How often is the drug taken?	Ubrogepant is taken once at the onset of a migraine, with the option to take a second dose at least two hours after the initial dose.

Drug information	
General drug and/or drug study information	<p>Ubrogepant is being reviewed by the Ministry of Health for the acute treatment of migraine, with or without aura, in adults. Migraine is a complex neurological disease that causes severe headaches. These headaches are often accompanied by other symptoms such as nausea or vomiting, dizziness, and sensory hypersensitivity. Migraines can occur with or without sensory disturbances, called auras, which present as flashes of light, blind spots, and other vision changes, and/or tingling in the hands or face.</p> <p>Ubrogepant works by blocking the activity of a chemical called calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP). During a migraine attack, CGRP is released from nerve endings in the head and plays a role in sending pain signals and causing other migraine symptoms. Ubrogepant blocks CGRP from attaching to its receptors, which helps stop these pain signals.</p> <p>Studies looked at the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain freedom at 2 hours after the initial dose • Absence of the most bothersome migraine-associated symptom 2 hours after the initial dose • Pain relief at 2 hours after the initial dose • Sustained pain relief from 2 to 24 hours after the initial dose • Sustained pain freedom from 2 to 24 hours after the initial dose • Bad reactions • Serious bad reactions • Patients leaving the trial due to bad reactions • Bad reactions of special interest such as heart-related events within 48 hours and within 30 days of the initial dose.
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, 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)
ubrogepant (Ubrelvy)	Tablet	Under Review
<i>Triptans</i>		
almotriptan (generics)	Tablet	Regular Benefit, Subject to LCA
eletriptan (generics)	Tablet	Non-Benefit
frovatriptan succinate (generics)	Tablet	Non-Benefit
naratriptan (generics)	Tablet	Regular Benefit, Subject to LCA
rizatriptan (generics)	Orally disintegrating tablet	Regular Benefit, Subject to LCA
sumatriptan succinate (generics)	Tablet	Regular Benefit, Subject to LCA
sumatriptan (generics)	Subcutaneous injection	Limited Coverage , Subject to LCA
sumatriptan (Imitrex)	Nasal spray	Regular Benefit
zolmitriptan (generics, Zomig)	Tablet Oral disintegrating tablet	Regular Benefit, Subject to LCA
zolmitriptan (Zomig)	Nasal Spray	Regular Benefit

The Drug Review Process in B.C.

A manufacturer submits a request to the Ministry of Health (Ministry).

An independent national organization called [Canada's Drug Agency \(CDA-AMC\)](#) provides evidence-based recommendations to public drug plans across Canada through its reimbursement review process.

As part of the CDA-AMC's Clinical Reimbursement Review process, the Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) makes reimbursement recommendations for non-oncology pharmaceuticals to the participating federal, provincial, and territorial publicly funded drug plans. In developing its recommendations, the CDEC considers:

- whether the drug is safe and effective
- 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 a BC PharmaCare coverage decision by considering:

- existing BC PharmaCare policies, programs and resources
- the evidence-informed advice of the CDA-AMC
- the recommendations and reimbursement conditions of the CDEC
- if a Ministry Initiated review, the advice of an independent expert group called the Drug Benefit Council (DBC)
- BC-specific patient input collected through the Your Voice website
- drugs already covered by BC PharmaCare that treat similar medical conditions
- the overall cost of covering the drug

Visit [BC PharmaCare](#) and [Drug reviews](#) for more information.

This document provides information only.

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