the DBL report

Issue #114, May 2020

An Official Accompaniment to the Alberta Drug Benefit List (ADBL) produced by Alberta Blue Cross

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics (ECDET)

In this issue:

Brief Summary of Drug Review Activities

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics met on March 17, 2020. The Committee reviewed Manufacturer submissions for nine (9) Drug Products for potential listing, or change in listing, on the *ADBL*. The Committee also considered information for a number of supplementary assessments of the coverage status of three (3) Drug Products.

In addition to Drug Products reviewed by the Expert Committee, thirty-eight (38) Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the *ADBL* effective May 1, 2020.

The following are highlights of recent changes to the *ADBL* and other topics of general interest. A complete list of changes, as well as the full *ADBL* may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.php

Highlights of Products Originally Reviewed via the Common Drug Review (CDR)

The following Drug Products were reviewed by CDR and the Expert Committee and added to the *ADBL* effective April 1, 2020:

- **PREVYMIS* 20 mg/mL (240 mg/12 mL) & 20 mg/mL (480 mg/24 mL) injections and 240 mg & 480 mg tablets** (letermovir) (MFC) via Special Authorization (SA)

The following Drug Products were reviewed by CDR and the Expert Committee and added to the *ADBL* effective May 1, 2020:

- **ACTEMRA* 162 mg/0.9 mL auto injector** (tocilizumab) (HLR) for the indication of Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA) via SA
- **ACTEMRA* 162 mg/0.9 mL injection syringe** (tocilizumab) (HLR) for the indication of Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (sJIA) and Polyarticular Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (pJIA) via SA
- **TRIAMCINOLONE HEXACETONIDE* 20 mg/mL injection** (triamcinolone hexacetonide) (MDX) via Restricted Benefit

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Please refer to the current ADBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).*

ABC 81171 (05/2020)

Highlights of Line Extension Drug Products Added

The following Drug Products were reviewed by the Expert Committee and added to the *ADBL* effective April 1, 2020:

- **METOJECT SUBCUTANEOUS 10 mg/0.2 mL, 12.5 mg/0.25 mL & 15 mg/0.3 mL injection syringes** (methotrexate sodium) (MDX)

Highlights of Interchangeable (IC) Drug Products Added

Addition of each of the following Entry IC Drug Products to the *ADBL* has resulted in the creation of a New IC Grouping, effective May 1, 2020:

- **MAR-ACARBOSE 50 mg & 100 mg tablets** (acarbose) (MAR)
- **PMS-FLUTICASONE/SALMETEROL DPI* 100/50 mcg, 250/50 mcg & 500/50 mcg inhalation powders** (salmeterol xinafoate/fluticasone propionate) (PMS) via Step Therapy/SA
- **TRI-JORDYNA (28 DAY) 0.18 mg/0.035 mg/0.215 mg/0.035 mg/0.25 mg/0.035 mg tablet** (norgestimate/ethinyl estradiol/norgestimate/ethinyl estradiol/norgestimate/ethinyl estradiol) (GLM)
- **WIXELA INHUB* 100 diskus, 250 diskus & 500 diskus powders for inhalation** (salmeterol xinafoate/fluticasone propionate) (MYP) via Step Therapy/SA

Special Authorization Criteria Changes

The Special Authorization criteria for coverage for the following Drug Products have been revised effective May 1, 2020:

- **ACTEMRA* (20 mL) 400 mg/vial injection** (tocilizumab) (HLR) for the indication of sJIA via SA
- **ACTEMRA* (4 mL) 80 mg/vial & (10 mL) 200 mg/vial injections** (tocilizumab) (HLR) for the indication of sJIA and pJIA via SA

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