the ADBL report

Issue #116, September 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 July 21, 2020. The Committee reviewed Manufacturer submissions for twenty-seven (27) 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 ten (10) Drug Products.

In addition to Drug Products reviewed by the Expert Committee, five (5) Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the *ADBL* effective August 1, 2020, and eighteen (18) Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the *ADBL* effective September 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 Interchangeable (IC) Drug Products Added

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

- **ACCEL-PILOCARPINE 5 mg tablet** (pilocarpine hydrochloride) (ACP)

A complete list of changes, as well as the full ADBL may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.php.
Please refer to the current ADBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).*

ABC 81171 (09/2020)

Highlights of Biosimilar Drug Product Added

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

- **RUXIENCE* 10 mg/mL injection** (rituximab) (PFI) via Special Authorization (SA) for the indications of Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (GPA) or Microscopic Polyangiitis (MPA) and Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)
- **RIXIMYO* 10 mg/mL injection** (rituximab) (SDZ) via SA for the indication of RA
- **ZIEXTENZO* 6 mg/0.6 mL injection syringe** (pegfilgrastim) (SDZ) via SA

Special Authorization Criteria Changes

The Special Authorization criteria for coverage for the following Drug Product has been revised effective August 1, 2020:

- **ORENCIA* 250 mg/ vial injection** (abatacept) (BMS) for the indication of polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (pJIA)

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

- **MAVIRET* 40 mg/100 mg tablet** (pibrentasvir/ glecaprevir) (ABV)
- **RITUXAN* 10 mg/mL injection** (rituximab) (HLR) for the indication of GPA/MPA

The Special Authorization criteria for the following Drug Products have been updated, effective September 1, 2020. Wording of the preamble has been revised to remove the statement that patients will not be permitted to switch from one biosimilar to another.

- **BRENZYS* 50 mg/mL injection syringe & auto injector syringe** (etanercept) (SSB)
- **ENBREL* 25 mg/vial injection & 50 mg/syringe injection** (etanercept) (AMG)
- **ERELZI* 25 mg/0.5 mL & 50 mg/mL injection syringes and 50 mg/mL sensoready auto injector syringe** (etanercept) (SDZ)
- **FULPHILA* 6 mg/0.6 mL injection syringe** (pegfilgrastim) (BGP)
- **INFLECTRA* 100 mg/vial injection** (infliximab) (CHH)
- **LAPELGA* 6 mg/0.6 mL injection syringe** (pegfilgrastim) (APX)
- **NEULASTA* 6 mg/0.6 mL injection syringe** (pegfilgrastim) (AMG)
- **REMICADE* 100 mg/vial injection** (infliximab) (JAI)
- **RENFLEXIS* 100 mg/vial injection** (infliximab) (SSB)
- **RITUXAN* 10 mg/mL injection** (rituximab) (HLR) for the indication of RA
- **TRUXIMA* 10 mg/mL (10 mL & 50 mL) injections** (rituximab) (CTC)

A complete list of changes, as well as the full ADBL may be accessed at https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.php.
Please refer to the current ADBL for explanations of coverage, including a listing of coverage criteria (where applicable).*
ABC 81171 (09/2020)