the ADBL report

Issue #117, November 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 September 22, 2020. The Committee reviewed Manufacturer submissions for thirty-nine (39) 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 twenty-nine (29) Drug Products.

In addition to Drug Products reviewed by the Expert Committee, eighteen (18) Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the *ADBL* effective October 1, 2020, and thirty-two (32) Drug Products underwent Expedited Review for listing on the *ADBL* effective November 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 Products to the *ADBL* has resulted in the creation of New IC Groupings, effective November 1, 2020:

- **RIVA-PYRIDOSTIGMINE 60 mg tablet** (pyridostigmine bromide) (RIV)
- **TRI-JORDYNA (21 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)
- **ZAMINE (21 DAY & 28 DAY) 3 mg/0.03 mg tablet** (drospirenone/ ethinyl estradiol) (APX)

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 (11/2020)

Highlights of Biosimilar Drug Products Added

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

- **ERELZI* 25 mg/0.5 mL & 50 mg/mL injection syringes and 50 mg/mL sensoready autoinjector syringe** (etanercept) (SDZ) via Special Authorization (SA) for the indication of Plaque Psoriasis

Highlights of Line Extension Drug Product Added

Addition of the following Drug Product was reviewed by the Expert Committee and added to the *ADBL* effective November 1, 2020:

- **FRAGMIN 16500 IU/0.66 mL injection syringe** (dalteparin sodium) (PFI)

Actemra for Giant Cell Arteritis (GCA)

To align with the international value (mg/L) for C-reactive protein (CRP) data used by the Alberta Public Laboratories, the SA criteria for the following Actemra Drug Product indicated for GCA was updated effective October 1, 2020 to include the mg/L value, as well as the current mg/dL value:

- **ACTEMRA* 162 mg/0.9 mL injection syringe** (tocilizumab) (HLR)

Special Authorization Criteria Changes

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

- **ENBREL* 25 mg/vial injection & 50 mg/mL injection syringe** (etanercept) (AMG) for the indication of Plaque Psoriasis
- **STELARA* 45 mg/0.5 mL vial or syringe injection & 90 mg/1.0 mL syringe injection** (ustekinumab) (JAI) for the indication of Plaque Psoriasis

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