

# the **DBL** report

Issue #140, September 2024

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

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics (ECDET)

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## In this issue:

- ***Brief Summary of Drug Review Activities***
- ***Highlights of:***
  - ❖ ***Products Originally Reviewed by CDA-AMC***
  - ❖ ***Drug Products Added***
  - ❖ ***Interchangeable Drug Products Added***
- ***Special Authorization Criteria Changes***

## ***Brief Summary of Drug Review Activities***

The Expert Committee on Drug Evaluation and Therapeutics met on July 23, 2024. The Committee reviewed Manufacturer submissions for seventeen (17) 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, twenty-seven (27) Drug Products and Devices underwent Expedited Review for listing on the ADBL effective August 1, 2024, and sixteen (16) Drug Products and Devices underwent Expedited Review for listing on the ADBL effective September 1, 2024.

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 by Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC)***

The following Drug Products were reviewed by CDA-AMC and the Expert Committee and added to the ADBL effective August 1, 2024:

- **BRINEURA\* 30 mg/mL injection** (cerliponase alfa) (BMI) via Special Authorization (SA)
- **CAMZYOS\* 2.5 mg, 5 mg, 10 mg & 15 mg capsules** (mavacamten) (BMS) via SA
- **NUCALA\* 100 mg/mL prefilled autoinjector & prefilled syringe injection** (mepolizumab) (GSK) via SA for the indication of chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps

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).\*

- **OXLUMO\* 94.5 mg/0.5 mL vial injection** (lumasiran sodium) (ANT) via SA
- **RINVOQ\* 15 mg extended-release tablet** (upadacitinib) (ABV) via SA for the indication of Ankylosing Spondylitis
- **RINVOQ\* 15 mg, 30 mg & 45 mg extended-release tablets** (upadacitinib) (ABV) via SA for the indications of Ulcerative Colitis & Crohn's Disease
- **VASCEPA\* 1 g capsule** (icosapent ethyl) (HLS) via SA

The following Drug Products were reviewed by CDA-AMC and the Expert Committee and added to the *ADBL* effective September 1, 2024:

- **VERQUVO\* 2.5 mg, 5 mg & 10 mg tablets** (vericiguat) (BAI) via SA

## *Highlights of Drug Products Added*

The following Drug Products were reviewed by the Expert Committee and added to the *ADBL* effective August 1, 2024:

- **SUBOXONE 2 mg/0.5 mg, 8 mg/2 mg & 12 mg/3 mg sublingual/buccal films** (buprenorphine hydrochloride/ naloxone hydrochloride dihydrate) (IUK)

## *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 August 1, 2024:

- **SANDOZ LISDEXAMFETAMINE 20 mg, 40 mg, 50 mg & 60 mg capsules** (lisdexamfetamine dimesylate) (SDZ) via Restricted Benefit
- **TEVA-LISDEXAMFETAMINE 20 mg, 30 mg, 40 mg, 50 mg & 60 mg capsules** (lisdexamfetamine dimesylate) (TEV) via Restricted Benefit

Addition of the following Entry IC Drug Products to the *ADBL* has resulted in the creation of New IC Groupings, effective September 1, 2024:

- **AURO-RUFINAMIDE\* 200 mg & 400 mg tablets** (rufinamide) (AUR) via SA
- **TARO-FUSIDIC ACID 2% topical cream** (fusidic acid) (TAR)

## *Special Authorization Criteria Changes*

Due to removal of the requirement criteria for a timed 25-foot walk (T25W) score, along with the renewal criteria regarding disease progression, the SA criteria for coverage for the following Drug Products have been revised effective August 1, 2024:

- **MAYZENT\* 0.25 mg & 2 mg oral tablets** (siponimod) (NOV)

A complete list of changes, as well as the full *ADBL* may be accessed at <https://www.ab.bluecross.ca/dbl/publications.html>.

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