

Initial Experience with the Common Drug Review

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Common Drug Review

- “... a single process for reviewing new drugs and providing formulary listing recommendations to participating publicly funded federal, provincial and territorial drug benefit plans....”
 - Recommendations based upon cost-effectiveness
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CDR Process

- “Secretariat”
 - Expert reviewers
 - Canadian Expert Drug Advisory Committee (CEDAC)
 - Participating drug plans
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Reimbursement options

- General benefit (2)
 - List with same criteria as other drugs (10)
 - Restricted listing (13)
 - Do not list (28)
 - Prospective registry (1)
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Four main reasons a drug isn't listed as General Benefit

- It's effectiveness hasn't been convincingly demonstrated (lack of head-to-head trials, use of surrogate markers)
 - Its price is considerably higher than its competitor's but its effectiveness isn't much better
 - It is cost-effective in a sub-group of patients, but there is concern it will be prescribed to a much wider group of patients
 - The drug is extremely expensive, but not extremely beneficial
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General thoughts about the CDR

- We have done a reasonable job assessing cost-effectiveness
 - Lack of integration between Health Canada, CDR, PMPRB, and post-marketing surveillance
 - Canadian generic prices too high, and very little price negotiation for brand name drugs
 - Lack of transparency regarding drug companies' submissions
 - Minimal public involvement to date (EDRD)
 - CDR's role currently limited to new drugs
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