DUTASTERIDE
(Avodart™ – GlaxoSmithKline Inc.)

Description:
Dutasteride is a 5α-reductase inhibitor, indicated for the treatment of symptomatic benign prostatic hyperplasia in men with an enlarged prostate.

Recommendation:
The Canadian Expert Drug Advisory Committee (CEDAC) recommends that dutasteride be listed in a similar manner as drug plans list finasteride for treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia in men with an enlarged prostate.

Reasons for Recommendation:
1. One unpublished randomized controlled trial compared dutasteride and finasteride in 1630 patients with benign prostatic hyperplasia, followed on average for slightly less than one year. It found no significant difference between the two drugs in efficacy or adverse events.

2. The price of dutasteride and finasteride is identical ($595 per year).

Of Note:
1. Both published and unpublished data were reviewed and taken into consideration in making this recommendation.