CEDAC FINAL RECOMMENDATION
and
REASONS for RECOMMENDATION

EPROSARTAN MESYLATE/HYDROCHLOROTHIAZIDE
(Teveten® Plus – Solvay Pharma Inc.)

Description:
Teveten® Plus is a combination product containing an angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB), eprosartan mesylate 600 mg, and a thiazide diuretic, hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ) 12.5mg. This combination is indicated for the treatment of mild to moderate essential hypertension in patients for whom combination therapy is appropriate. It is not indicated for initial therapy.

Recommendation:
The Canadian Expert Drug Advisory Committee (CEDAC) recommends that this eprosartan/HCTZ combination be listed in a similar manner as drug plans list other ARB/HCTZ combination products.

Reasons for the recommendation:
1. Two randomized trials found that the combination of eprosartan and HCTZ provided greater blood pressure lowering than monotherapy using either agent.

2. The combination product is slightly less costly than the two products given separately, due primarily to the payment of one rather than two pharmacy professional fees.

3. There are considerable differences among provincial and federal drug plans in reimbursement of ARBs, alone or in combination with HCTZ.

Of Note:
1. The only trials evaluating this combination compared it with the individual components using blood pressure as the primary outcome. No studies were provided comparing eprosartan/HCTZ with other therapies, alone or in combination.

2. There are no randomized controlled trials that have compared the eprosartan/HCTZ combination with appropriate comparators using clinically relevant health outcomes such as vascular events.

3. Both published and unpublished data were reviewed and taken into consideration in making this recommendation.