CADTH COMMON DRUG REVIEW

Patient Input

fluticasone propionate / salmeterol xinafoate
(Mfr. ) Teva Canada Innovation
Indication: Treatment of asthma in patients aged 12 years and older

CADTH received patient input for this review from:
Asthma Canada
BC Lung Association & Lung Groups
The Lung Association — Ontario

April 6, 2018
Disclaimer: The views expressed in each submission are those of the submitting organization or individual; not necessarily the views of CADTH or of other organizations.

While CADTH formats the patient input submissions for posting, it does not edit the content of the submissions.

CADTH does use reasonable care to prevent disclosure of personal information in posted material; however, it is ultimately the submitter’s responsibility to ensure no personal information is included in the submission. The name of the submitting patient group and all conflict of interest information are included in the posted patient group submission; however, the name of the author, including the name of an individual patient or caregiver submitting the patient input, are not posted.
1. About Your Patient Group

Asthma Canada is the only national, volunteer-driven charity, solely devoted to enhancing the quality of life for people living with asthma and respiratory allergies. Asthma Canada (formerly the Asthma Society of Canada) has a 44-year reputation of providing health education programs and services to Canadians living with asthma and their caregivers, as well as healthcare professionals. Asthma Canada offers evidence based and age-appropriate asthma and allergy education, and disease management programs. Our vision is to empower every child and adult with asthma in Canada to live an active and symptom-free life. Our mission is to be a balanced voice for asthma in Canada, advancing optimal self-management, prevention, research, and health care.

Asthma Canada established the Asthma Canada Member Alliance – ACMA (formerly the National Asthma Patient Alliance), a grassroots patient/caregiver volunteer group of the organization with an outreach to more than 5,000 Canadians affected by asthma and respiratory allergies. The patient voice and face of Asthma Canada – ACMA leads asthma advocacy and education efforts across Canada. Asthma Canada, with the help of ACMA volunteers, aims to provide the patient perspective in asthma research, resources, and policy and strives to improve asthma care and quality of life for Canadians and their caregivers impacted by asthma and respiratory allergies.

For more information, visit www.asthma.ca.

2. Information Gathering

Information for this submission was obtained through multiple sources, one of which was a requested medical briefing provided by Teva Canada Innovation. Information about patient and caregiver experience was obtained through an Asthma Canada online survey with respect to the use of medications such as inhaled corticosteroids and combination controllers, the daily management of this chronic condition, and the impact that asthma has on quality of life. The survey was sent to ACMA members across Canada in July 2017 and 88 responses were received. A total of 85% of survey respondents had received a diagnosis of asthma and 13% identified themselves as caregivers of an individual who had been diagnosed with asthma.

Numerous studies published in peer-reviewed journals were also sourced for the purposes of this submission. In addition, information was drawn from the study conducted by the Asthma Society of Canada in 2014, entitled “Severe Asthma: The Canadian Patient Journey”.

3. Disease Experience

Asthma is the third most common chronic condition in Canada. Patients with persistent, moderate-to-Severe Asthma face greater difficulty in getting their asthma under control compared to patients with a more mild version of the disease. Statistics Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada estimate about 3 million Canadians live with some degree of asthma, including 600,000 children. The Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) guidelines state that asthma can be deemed “uncontrolled” if patients experience at least three of the following four symptoms during the past four weeks: daytime asthma symptoms more than twice a week; any night waking due to asthma; reliever medication needed more than twice a week (excluding taken before exercise); and any activity limitation due to asthma. It is estimated that 250,000 Canadians have Severe Asthma and, it is this population that will typically need to use a greater number of medications and a higher dosage of medications to achieve control of their disease. Patients with Severe Asthma are also more likely to need additional medical care and visit hospital emergency rooms more frequently because of exacerbations. In 2015, asthma attacks led to more than
70,000 visits to emergency rooms in Canada. For those who treat, care and live with asthma, the goal is to ensure that asthma is well controlled and that patients are able to live a symptom-free life.

Persistent moderate-to-Severe Asthma is a chronic condition that restricts engagement in social and physical activities, and progression of the disease leads to a deterioration in overall health. People living with asthma will often remark that the condition forces them to withdraw from participating in social activities on a regular basis because flare ups arise unpredictably. Staying active on a regular basis is a challenge because physical exercise exacerbates their asthma. Depression and anxiety can develop in patients with uncontrolled asthma because of the decline in quality of life they experience. Indeed, asthma has an adverse global impact on a patient. It first takes a physical toll, and is often followed by a social and financial toll. Patients will often say they want their old life and that the condition has put a strain and burden on their family, personal, and work life.

More than three-quarters (76% or 51 of 67) of survey participants who responded to the question of how asthma affects their day-to-day life reported that they restrict the type or amount of physical activity they engage in because of their asthma. Nearly three of 10 respondents (27% or 18 of 67) who answered that question cite lost productivity – either missing school or work – as a way in which asthma has impacted their daily life. A total of 13% of respondents said that it has an impact on family or caregivers. A total of 12% of individuals surveyed (8 of 67) reported experiencing negative stigma. Respondents provided additional various responses when asked how asthma affects their day-to-day life including experiencing anxiety and “avoidance of situations which will negatively impact my asthma” and not being able to be near individuals who are smoking or wearing perfume while at work for fear of an exacerbation.

Survey participants were asked if there are activities they are unable to engage in because of their asthma. Physical activities, such as exercising and spending time outdoors, was cited by 50 of 63 respondents (79%), and social activities, including engaging in group outings or participating in organizations or meetings was cited by 20 of 63 respondents (32%). Three out of 10 respondents to that question (19 of 63 or 30%) said asthma interfered with their sleep. A total of 16 of 63 (25%) cited other activities in which they could not participate because of asthma. Some of those activities included being around people who smoke, visiting with friends or family who have pets, and scuba diving.

“I had a Severe Asthma attack two years ago, which was life-threatening. Due to that traumatic experience, I tend to be very cautious when I know that I will be spending time outdoors. I do fear collapsing in public and not having someone I know with me.”

“I am now disabled as a result of lifelong asthma. It is isolating and lonely and frustrating.”

When asked what aspect of asthma is the most important to control, 59% of respondents (40 of 68) said day-to-day symptoms were the most important to control. Asthma exacerbations (asthma attacks) were cited by 32% of respondents (22 of 68) as the aspect of the illness that is the most important to control followed by the amount of medications needed (cited by 7%).

4. Experiences with Currently Available Treatments

The most common currently available treatments that feature most prominently in treatment regimens, cited by respondents, were monotherapies and combination therapies. Nearly three-quarters of individuals who reported their specific medication usage (50 of 67) indicated the use of reliever medications. A total of 46 of 67 respondents (69%) reported usage of combination therapies, consisting of inhaled corticosteroids and long-acting beta-2 agonists (ICS/LABA). A total of 37% or 25 of 67 respondents reported use of inhaled corticosteroids (ICS). One quarter or respondents (25% or 17 of 67) said they use leukotriene receptor antagonists. Systemic corticosteroids were used by 16% or 11 of 67 respondents. Two respondents (3%) cited the use of long-acting beta-2 agonists. Some respondents reported using biologic therapies: four or 6% of respondents said they use anti-IgE biologics and one (1%) respondent indicated using an anti-il-5 biologic.
When asked how effective current treatments are with controlling asthma, a total of 25% (17 of 67) reported their currently available treatments as only somewhat effective, meaning they do not have control of their disease. For patients to live symptom-free, which is the goal of asthma management, their medications need to be consistently effective. According to the *Severe Asthma: The Canadian Patient Journey*, many patients report going through several years of trying different medications before finding the medication, or combination of medications, that will keep their asthma manageable. Some participants report having spent up to seven years experimenting with treatments before finding the right treatment; while others still have not found a treatment that works for them.

The most common adverse event, with 21 of 55 respondents (38%) reporting, was an increase in weight due to medication. This was found to be more difficult to accept than other side effects. A third of respondents (18 of 55 or 33%) said an increase in heart rate was the most bothersome side effect. Closely behind was dry throat (17 of 55 or 31%). Equal numbers of patients (13 or 24%) complained of hoarseness and difficulty sleeping and 10 of 55 (18%) indicated thrush and headaches were the most difficult side effects. Mood or behaviour changes were cited by eight (15%) respondents as negative adverse events. Other side effects that patients complained of included bad taste (13% or 7 respondents), upset stomach (9% or five respondents), and acne (4% or two respondents). Some respondents had very specific comments about the side effects they experienced while taking their therapies:

"My current meds are not as effective as ones I was previously using but were taken off the market."

Respondents were asked about concerns about the side effects of inhaled corticosteroids and combination therapies (inhaled corticosteroids and long acting beta agonists). Asked which adverse events were most bothersome and why, respondents supplied myriad answers. Below are some of the comments given by respondents:

"Thrush is quite annoying and I have to be constantly watching for it."
"Dry throat is persistent and worse in the dry winter months."

When asked about difficulties or obstacles in accessing current treatments, 19 of 52 respondents (37%) reported cost as the leading obstacle to accessing treatment. Lack of awareness of new treatments was the second most common obstacle (18 of 52 or 35%) cited as impeding access to treatment. Inability to find an asthma specialist was cited by four or 8% of respondents, and a doctor being unwilling to prescribe treatment was reported by two or 4% of respondents. A total of 23 or 44% of respondents reported "other" obstacles to accessing treatment. Here are some specific responses:

"Not all asthma treatments are covered under Ontario's provincial drug formulary."
"Three-year wait list to see specialist. After 8 years...still waiting. Quebec – even with a family doctor, still a 6-8 week wait for urgent appointment, so must use ER or walk-in clinics, hence issues with continuity of care."

As a general rule, financial challenges act as a significant barrier to optimal health outcomes. This is no less true for patients with asthma. Many insurance carriers do not provide complete, or even partial, coverage of asthma medications, meaning many patients with asthma cannot afford their medications. The expense of medications and the fact that many patients with asthma may have low incomes, in part because they may be unable to work because of their asthma, causes additional stress for many patients and their families (*Severe Asthma: The Canadian Patient Journey*). Even paying for a small percentage of the cost of a drug may present financial difficulties for patients. When asked if financial difficulties were experienced as a result of asthma, more than one in six respondents (16 of 59 or 17%) reported experiencing such difficulties. Here are some of the responses:

"It [my medication] is expensive and I have to make an emotional decision as to whether it is worth it."
“I have been completely untreated in the past for my asthma due to the high cost of the controller medication.”

“Right now, my husband’s insurance pays for my medication, but if he predeceases me, that coverage will cease and I will be in difficulty to pay for such expensive treatment.”

5. Improved Outcomes

Treatment success for patients with asthma ideally means being brought under control so they can live life to the fullest every day without fear of an exacerbation. Getting asthma under control so that patients experience fewer symptoms, and ideally no symptoms, is the primary objective for all patients with asthma. Survey participants were asked if there were needs that were not being met by their current treatments. Seventeen of 45 (38%) said the reality that many doses were needed daily made it difficult to manage their asthma on a day-to-day basis, making it a time-consuming burden that can interfere with day-to-day activities. Fourteen of 45 (31%) respondents indicated optimal symptom control was not being achieved with their current therapies, describing their symptom control as “poor”. The lack of affordability of current treatment, which can result in limited access to available medications, was cited by 8 (18%) of respondents as failing to permit effective self-management of their asthma. Six respondents (13%) indicated current treatments were resulting in frequent hospitalization/doctor visits, making asthma a condition that interfered with daily life for patients and caregivers. Fourteen respondents (31%) gave specific responses, some of which can be found below:

Harmful side effects to teeth, nose and throat linings, lung damage.”

Patients supplied numerous responses when asked what they would look for in a new controller inhaler.

“I am willing to try new medications if it is [sic] available.”

“It is a constant battle to control my daughter’s asthma. Lots and lots of medication changes to try to find a solution – and once we find one, it stops working after a while. Having new and better options would be a big improvement and require less doubling up of medications.”

“More efficient delivery.”

Asthma affects not only the individuals living with asthma but has a pronounced impact on caregivers, whether caregivers are family members, spouses, parents, siblings, educators, or close friends. Caregivers have a constant fear and worry that their loved one or close friend will experience an asthma exacerbation. The condition takes an emotional toll on caregivers. A total of 59 respondents answered with respect to the challenges caregivers face in caring for people with asthma. Two-thirds (68%) of respondents reported worry and fear of exacerbation/attack in their loved ones. About half of respondents (49%) said the potential for hospital visits/admissions were substantial concerns. Four out of every ten who responded (41%) said missed work/school was a considerable challenge. Cost and financial difficulty/burden was cited by 22 respondents (37%). Eleven respondents (19%) cited specific challenges that caregivers face. Some of their responses appear here:

“In my experience as an RN, caregivers do not understand the disease process nor the meds.”

Caring for a patient with asthma can be taxing on an individual in terms of responsibilities and more difficult if the patient requires more medications to achieve control. Survey respondents defined the impact that asthma treatments have on the daily routine or lifestyle of caregivers. Thirty-one of 50 respondents (62%) said managing multiple medications or multiple doses has an impact on the caregivers’ daily routine or lifestyle. Twenty-three of 50 (46%) said they are impacted by asthma treatments because the treatments affect the frequency of doctor’s appointments, and as a result, impact the daily routine or lifestyle of caregivers. Twenty-two (44%) said asthma treatments have an impact on caregivers’ sleep. Eleven respondents
(22%) cited other specific impacts that asthma treatments had on caregivers’ lifestyle including stress and worry. These are some of the responses:

“Asthma impacts caregivers emotionally because they sometimes have to watch the person struggle without being able to help.”

Being a caregiver for a patient with asthma can impact many aspects of family, social and work life and be an added stress financially. A huge effect of asthma on caregivers is the worry and fear they face that their loved one will suffer an exacerbation of an asthma attack. A total of 38 of 88 respondents described how being a caregiver impacts these aspects, here are some descriptions:

“I have missed countless days of work, impacting our financial situation. I spend less time with my nonasthma kids and husband than I’d like and we have missed so many social events because my daughter was too sick to leave alone or was in hospital.”

6. Experience with Drug Under Review

The addition of a long-acting beta agonist to an inhaled corticosteroid can lead to improved control of asthma and reduced rates of exacerbations. A medication that is easy to use and ensures consistent dosing, as does fluticasone propionate/salmeterol xinafoate, can be an effective and attraction option for patients. A total of 75 respondents answered the question as to whether a combination inhaler that follows a simple, 3-step process that provides a consistent dosage and includes active metering would improve the lives of people with asthma. A total of 60 (80%) indicated it would and an additional 20% of respondents said they would be willing to experience adverse effects from a new combination inhaler.

Patients supplied a variety of answers when asked how satisfied they were with their current medication and what they would look for in a new combination inhaler. Below are some of the responses that were given:

“My respirologist and I have worked over three years to get the right combination of drugs. As long as I’m getting consistent medication and proper control of symptoms, I’d be happy.”

“I find that the combination inhaler does not increase the heart rate as much as taking the meds separately.”

“Somewhat satisfied with the Advair. Hoarseness is an ongoing issue so a mechanism that ensures the medication is delivered more effectively would be ideal.”

A total of two of 75 respondents had used Respiclick ICS/LABA as part of a clinical trial or through other means. Both patients reported that they believed a novel combination inhaler that involves a simple three step process and administers a consistent low dose and includes active metering would improve the lives of patients with asthma.

The drug under review, dry powder albuterol delivered via a multi-dose dry powder inhaler (mDPI), has demonstrated comparable efficacy and safety to conventional delivery of albuterol, via hydrofluoroalkane (HFA) in recent studies. (Kerwin et al., 2015) In terms of ease of use, the drug under review requires no cleaning with water regularly and shaking, priming or re-priming before use. (Kerwin, et al., 2015) Because the drug under review includes a device that does not require patients to coordinate inhalation with actuation, there is no potential for misuse of the device. It has been documented that errors in coordination of inhalation with actuation can result in poorer asthma control. (Giraud V, Roche N, 2002)

Research has pointed out that subgroups of patients may benefit in particular from a using a delivery system that does not require spacing, priming, washing, or routine maintenance. Individuals whose cognition is impaired may be less able to optimally use conventional therapies that require multiple steps including shaking and spacing, and elderly patients may also
benefit from an inhalation device that is simpler to use and requires little maintenance. While the Global Initiative for Asthma guidelines state that healthcare professionals (HCPs) teach or correct inhaler technique in each clinical visit with a patient, (Bosnic-Anticevich, et al, 2017) it has been put forth that HCPs rarely undergo formal training in using inhalers. (Hanania NA, Wittman R, Kesten S, Chapman KR, 1994)

7. Anything Else

The drug has been approved by other regulatory bodies in other jurisdictions. An expansion of choice of medications and unrestricted access to those medications for people living with asthma will ultimately decrease the burden of the disease in the daily lives of patients and in the daily lives of their caregivers. A broadened selection of medications will allow people living with asthma to live their lives as richly and symptom-free as possible.
Appendix: Patient Group Conflict of Interest Declaration

1. Did you receive help from outside your patient group to complete this submission? If yes, please detail the help and who provided it.
   
   Asthma Canada requested and received a medical briefing from Teva Canada Innovation with regard to RespiClick – fluticasone propionate / salmeterol xinafoate.

2. Did you receive help from outside your patient group to collect or analyze data used in this submission? If yes, please detail the help and who provided it.
   
   We did not receive any additional assistance in compiling this submission.

3. List any companies or organizations that have provided your group with financial payment over the past two years AND who may have direct or indirect interest in the drug under review.

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I hereby certify that I have the authority to disclose all relevant information with respect to any matter involving this patient group with a company, organization, or entity that may place this patient group in a real, potential, or perceived conflict of interest situation.

Name: Jenna Reynolds
Position: Director, Programs and Services
Patient Group: Asthma Canada
Date: October 17, 2017
Patient Group: BC Lung Association & Lung Groups

1. About Your Patient Group

The mission of the BCLA is to improve lung health and to lead lung health initiatives. [www.bc.lung.ca](http://www.bc.lung.ca)

2. Information Gathering

The information was gathered in Canada by a survey and personal experience of patients with asthma in 2016.

3. Disease Experience

A reported 2.4 million Canadians are living with asthma. Asthma is a serious chronic lung condition mainly caused by inflammation of the airways of the lungs, wheezing, tightness in the chest and or coughing that vary over time. Though there is no cure for asthma, with proper treatment, people living with asthma can lead a normal and active lives. Other symptoms include depression and frustration because they are no longer able to be active and do the things they were once able to. Depression plays a factor when you are restricted from doing things. It adds to the negativity. Patients who report negative experiences with the diagnostic process are much more likely to experience a negative mindset with respect to Asthma. Four primary emotional responses were evident in patients as Asthma progresses: combative determined to prolong normality, serene-focus on living normally with family; dejected-mentally & physically exhausted; stoical – suffer in silence and increase in frustration that there is no cure for the condition and only relying on several medications. They become hopeful when a new choice of medication is discovered so that they can access the new medication if the other or current medication they are on is not working for them.

4. Experiences with Currently Available Treatments

Some of their medication works for them but there are some that does not work so they are very grateful when a new medication is available for them to try to relieve their symptoms.

Unmet needs: Of critical importance to the treatment of asthma are medicines that will help reduce or stop the progression of the disease and subsequent hospitalizations. Additional therapies are needed that go beyond symptomatic relief. New treatments are urgently needed that will work to improve overall lung function. New treatment options are required as the disease progresses.

5. Improved Outcomes

A way forward: Reinforce that people with asthma can take ownership of their asthma by adhering to their treatment plan including taking medications as prescribed, recognizing that control is possible.

The patients were in a clinical trial with the new drug.

Patients stated that it was easier to use, they were relieved of their symptoms quickly and were able to breathe easily, they were able to do chores that they were not able to perform or do before. It was easy to use and that it was cheaper than what they were presently taking.
6. Experience with Drug Under Review

Results from the clinical trials FEV1 improved. Very easy to use. It improved their quality of life. The new medication slowed the progression of their asthma by relieving their symptoms. One statement from a patient said “it gave her a lot more energy to do daily activities and she was able to exercise without being exhausted and short of breath.” It is frightening when you cannot get enough oxygen to be able to stand—up you have to get back to a reasonable state” or it is difficult not to be able to breathe”. When you cannot breathe, nothing else matters” With the new medication I was able to breathe easily.

7. Anything Else?

Another choice and access to cheaper medications would be very helpful for asthma patients.
Appendix: Patient Group Conflict of Interest Declaration

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2. Did you receive help from outside your patient group to collect or analyze data used in this submission? If yes, please detail the help and who provided it.

3. List any companies or organizations that have provided your group with financial payment over the past two years AND who may have direct or indirect interest in the drug under review.

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Funds received were for Educators respiratory training.

No money received from TEVA, producer of drug under review

I hereby certify that I have the authority to disclose all relevant information with respect to any matter involving this patient group with a company, organization, or entity that may place this patient group in a real, potential, or perceived conflict of interest situation.

Name: Kelly Ablog Morrant
Position: Director Lung Health Initiatives, Education and Program Services
Patient Group: BCLA Lung Groups
Date: October 23, 2017
1. About Your Patient Group

The Lung Association - Ontario is a registered charity that assists and empowers people living with or caring for others with lung disease. It is a recognized leader, voice and primary resource in the prevention and control of respiratory illness, tobacco cessation and prevention, and air quality and its effects on lung health. The Association provides programs and services to patients and health-care providers, invests in lung research and advocates for improved policies on lung health. It is run by a board of directors and has approximately 50 employees, supported by thousands of dedicated volunteers. The Lung Association - Ontario is part of a federated model and works closely with 9 other provincial lung associations and the Canadian Lung Association.

www.lungontario.ca

2. Information Gathering

The information provided in this submission was obtained from two phone interviews (completed in October 2017), five on-line surveys (completed in 2016), as well as input from a certified respiratory educator. All of these individuals are people living in Ontario, Canada, and all are living with Asthma.

The first phone interview was with a woman, in her 50’s, who has a diagnosis of chronic severe asthma with mild COPD. She has been living with the disease for 22 years. The second phone interview was also with a woman, in her 30’s, who has been living with asthma for ten years. Both indicated that their asthma symptoms have been particularly bad this calendar year.

3. Disease Experience

The symptoms and challenges that people experience as a result of Asthma are coughing (with or without mucus), wheezing, shortness of breath, difficulty fighting infections and weight loss. When asked whether this condition affected their day-to-day life, respondents indicated that it did indeed impact both their physical and leisure activities, as well as their work, ability to travel and socialize. One person had a recent (Jan. 2017) ten day hospital stay for her asthma and since then has only been able to re-gain 50 – 60% of her lung capacity. Another respondent indicated that their asthma impacted their independence, financial situation, and relationships with family and friends. A few direct quotes are:

- “Asthma affects all aspects of my day-to-day life. I can no longer curl or cross country ski, both of which I miss doing very much, as it provided me with a social network.”

- “My asthma has been poorly managed since Feb. 2016, which has had all sorts of impacts. For me the biggest problem has been exercise – I usually do quite a lot and I’ve had to scale way back. I can’t run much, which I’m normally good at, and weights feel much heavier and harder to lift.”

- “I cough a lot and have a lot of congestion, both of which cause me to be short of breath most of the time.”

- “If I get any kind of respiratory infection it tends to become very severe (my cough scares people) and takes about a month to go away.”

- “My asthma can cause some pain and tightness in my chest.”

The aspects of the condition that are most important to control for people living with it are first - shortness of breath and second – coughing. They would also like better control with wheezing and fatigue, to better manage their weight loss and have an increased ability to fight infections.
4. Experiences with Currently Available Treatments

Treatments tried by those who completed the survey and were interviewed included: Symbicort, Ventolin, Alvesco with salbutamol, Xolair injections, Spiriva, and Breo Ellipta. Prednisone was used in emergency situations and Nasonex / other antihistamines for allergies as needed.

Current treatments do provide some relief for: fatigue, shortness of breath, cough, low energy, poor appetite and the inability to fight infection, but patients indicated they want to experience greater assistance with managing all of these symptoms. The side effects indicated from using the above-mentioned drugs include: hoarse voice, increased mucus, low energy/ fatigue, appetite loss, impact on mood and being shaky. One person mentioned concerns over an increased heart rate from daily inhaler use.

When asked about whether the treatments affected their life in any other way, some respondents indicated that the cost burden was an issue, as was the time required to travel to health-care settings, the time required off work for these appointments and the changes to their daily routine to accommodate treatment.

5. Improved Outcomes

Key treatment outcomes of asthma that patients would most like addressed are: reduced shortness of breath, reduced coughing, reduced fatigue and improved appetite. They would like an increased ability to fight infections and to have a higher energy level. Ideally, patients would experience an improved quality of life and improved lung function.

Administration of medication, side effects and cost burden were the three most commonly mentioned things that are evaluated when considering new therapies.

“The turboinhaler mechanism didn’t bother me until I had to start taking more of it. Now that I’m taking more doses, an easier mechanism (a tablet, or something) would be preferable. I just find it a bit time-consuming and cumbersome.”

The main trade-offs for people when discussing options with their doctor are cost and likelihood of effectiveness. “My doctor once said that I could try adding another medication into the mix to help with management, but noted that it was more expensive and only worked in a relatively small percentage of patients. That didn’t seem worth it.”

6. Experience with Drug Under Review

No patients within this evidence group submission have used the drug fluticasone propionate.
Appendix: Patient Group Conflict of Interest Declaration

To maintain the objectivity and credibility of the CADTH CDR and pCODR programs, all participants in the drug review processes must disclose any real, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest. This Patient Group Conflict of Interest Declaration is required for participation. Declarations made do not negate or preclude the use of the patient group input. CADTH may contact your group with further questions, as needed.

1. Did you receive help from outside your patient group to complete this submission? If yes, please detail the help and who provided it.
   - No – not applicable

2. Did you receive help from outside your patient group to collect or analyze data used in this submission? If yes, please detail the help and who provided it.
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Name: Peter Glazier
Position: Vice President, Marketing, Development and Public Affairs
Patient Group: The Lung Association - Ontario
Date: October 24, 2017