

New heart failure medication process for prescribing Ivabradine (Lancora™)

Attn: physicians and nurse practitioners

Health Canada has recently approved a new medication for the treatment of heart failure (HF) with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF). Approval was based on results from the Shift trial, which demonstrated that ivabradine (Lancora™) reduced the relative risk of cardiovascular death by 18% and hospital admission by 26% among patients with chronic heart failure (HF), NYHA Class II-IV symptoms, left ventricular ejection fraction of $\leq 35\%$ and heart rate of greater than or equal to 70 BPM, despite maximally tolerated guideline directed HF therapies. The effects were mainly driven by decreased hospital admissions for worsening heart failure compared to placebo.

There are very specific considerations for this medication that prescribers must be aware of, as well as drug interactions with medications that could impact patient safety and health care utilization in BC.

In attempts to ensure appropriate utilization of ivabradine, and to assess its impact on health care utilization in BC outside of the clinical trial setting, Cardiac Services BC and BC's Heart Failure Network experts have created processes for prescribers as outlined below (see the attached documents for full details):

1. Assessing if your patient is eligible to be started on ivabradine

- a. Prior to initiation of ivabradine please complete the eligibility criteria form. Patients should meet all the major criteria before drug initiation. Also take into consideration the minor criteria when making your decision.
- b. Please complete all the elements in the data capture section of the form. This information will be used for quality assurance and improvement purposes, as well as to assess the drug's impact on health care utilization in BC.
- c. Once a patient is assessed as eligible, please record the ivabradine dose the patient was initiated on.
- d. Fax the completed form to Cardiac Services BC at 604-875-7364, attention: Bonnie Catlin.

2. Initiation, titration & monitoring recommendations for Ivabradine usage in British Columbia

- a. To ensure patient safety and standardization of clinical practice for prescribers from across BC, please use the attached algorithm when assessing, initiating, titrating and monitoring a patient who has been prescribed ivabradine

3. Ivabradine summary & practical tips

- a. This information sheet is an education resource for prescribers and/or their staff.

Ivabradine is currently undergoing the Fair PharmaCare review process in BC.

The cost per day is approximately \$2.50

To assist us in capturing the data needed to assess the real life impact of ivabradine on patient outcomes and health care utilization in BC, we are asking you to incorporate the new Provincial processes into your patient care and office workflows.

If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Catlin, provincial heart failure clinical director, at bonnie.catlin@phsa.ca or Dr. Sean Virani, heart failure physician lead, at Sean.Virani@phsa.ca

Thank you,

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