



January 25, 2021

1186123

PMPRB Consultation Team
Patented Medicine Prices Review Board
Box L40 333 Laurier Ave West
Suite 1400
Ottawa ON K1P 1C1
PMPRB.Consultations.CEPMB@pmprb-cepmb.gc.ca

Dear PMPRB:

I am writing to restate my strong support for the full implementation of the regulatory changes proposed by the Federal Government for the Patented Medicine Prices Review Board (PMPRB) to better address excessive drug prices in Canada. British Columbia has previously expressed our support.

The regulatory mandate of the PMPRB is to protect Canadians against excessive prices charged by patentees for patented medicines. While the PMPRB was formed over 30 years ago, Canada's patented medicine prices remain among the highest in the world. The proposed modernization should provide the PMPRB with updated tools to better protect Canadians and public drug plans from excessive prices for patented medicines. While BC is disappointed to hear of a further delay of the implementation of the modernized regulations, we are hopeful that they will be implemented by July 1, 2021 without any further delays.

With respect to the definition of Gap Medicines and the timeline for compliance, we understand that these are necessary changes resulting from the delay in the coming-into-force date of the new regulations. BC is supportive of the proposed changes to the definition which allow patented medicines to be compliant with the new regulations despite the delays, as well as having the compliance timeline falling within one reporting period.

I strongly urge the Federal Government to implement these proposed regulatory amendments without any further delays.

Sincerely,

Mitch Moneo
Assistant Deputy Minister
Pharmaceutical, Laboratory and Blood Services Division, Ministry of Health