

The Role of Canadian Drug Expert Committee Members

The role of a Canadian Drug Expert Committee (CDEC) member is to:

- establish, maintain, and apply standards and methodologies to evaluate the therapeutic value and cost-effectiveness of drugs for the management of various diseases
- consider submissions made by manufacturers, and all related clinical reviews and economic reviews prepared and submitted in accordance with the organization's standards
- evaluate submissions and Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee requests for advice using a multicriteria approach that considers therapeutic advantages and disadvantages, cost-effectiveness, and patient and societal perspectives on the impact of the drug product under review, compared with accepted or existing therapies
- recommend, after the consideration of a submission to the Provincial and Territorial Ministries of Health, those new drug products for active disease management that should be considered for funding and under which conditions such products should be funded
- provide reasons for every recommendation made to the Provincial and Territorial Ministries of Health for public dissemination
- provide advice and, if appropriate, changes to a previously issued recommendation in response to every request for advice by the Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee.

Qualifications

All CDEC members, including the Chair, shall demonstrate the following qualifications:

- residing in Canada
- not currently employed by, or engaged as an advisor or consultant with, any pharmaceutical or related company
- no unmanageable conflict(s) of interest
- availability and commitment of time to prepare for meetings and participate fully in CDEC
- knowledge of, experience with, and understanding of issues related to drugs and their management (diagnosis, treatment, and care)
- knowledge of health technology assessment (HTA), clinical trial design, HTA methodology, and reimbursement policy
- knowledge and understanding of the mandate of the organization and that of its Common Drug Review, including their roles in the broader health care system



- willingness to work within the defined processes and parameters for reviewing drugs, using a multicriteria approach that considers evidence-based medicine, cost-effectiveness, and societal and patient values
- experience in committee and/or community work
- effective communication skills
- willingness to acquire the information and adopt the skills needed to successfully negotiate important issues
- strong listening skills
- acting with integrity and transparency, independent of specific interests
- relating to and respecting a diverse range of perspectives
- gaining respect and credibility within a diverse range of partners and collaborators and the wider public
- ability to work constructively as a member of a team and appreciate the diverse perspectives of CDEC members and outside specialist experts.

Expert Member Qualifications

Expert members of CDEC shall demonstrate the following qualifications:

- a professional degree from a recognized institution in at least 1 of the following disciplines: medicine, pharmacy, pharmacology, ethics, or health economics
- in active practice and/or research in the community, hospital, and/or academic setting
- an understanding of the use and delivery of prescription drugs in Canada.

Ethics Member Qualifications

The ethicist of CDEC brings an ethical lens to the drug review process and has experience in ethical analysis and promoting reflection on ethical issues. The ethicist will be a full member of CDEC with the same responsibilities and expectations, and subject to the same terms and conditions, as all other members.

Patient Member Qualifications

The CDEC patient member represents the patient interest and has experience as a patient or caregiver and demonstrated interest in issues related to health care at the community, regional, or national level, and ideally has some experience working with committees. The patient member is a full member of CDEC with the same responsibilities and expectations, and subject to the same terms and conditions, as all other members.



Remuneration

On appointment, CDEC members are eligible to receive the following:

- \$140 per hour for committee-related work, meetings, and preparation for meetings
- \$70 per hour for travel time to committee meetings
- any reasonable travel costs for CDEC meetings, in accordance with the organization's Travel Policy.

Remuneration is paid to the individual and is subject to deductions for the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and income taxes. Members will receive a T4 each year for tax purposes.

Accepting remuneration may impact an individual's eligibility under government-funded programs, such as the Ontario Disability Support Program.

Time Commitment

Members shall make their best efforts to attend all committee meetings.

The anticipated time commitment for CDEC members is up to 4 to 5 days per month (excluding travel time). CDEC members may be required to travel for CDEC meetings, which are expected to be 1 to 2 days in duration. CDEC meetings are primarily held in Ottawa.

Term of Appointment

- The appointment will be for a period of 3 years.
- The appointment may be renewed for 1 additional term at the discretion of the President and CEO. There should be no expectation of automatic reappointment.
- The successful candidates will be required to adhere to the organization's code of conduct.
- Candidates are required to declare any conflict of interest, or potential conflict of interest, which might arise in the course of CDEC business.