

valsartan 320 mg tablet (Diovan®)
Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd

No. (351/07)

Product Update

9 February 2007 *Issued February 2008*

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has completed its assessment of the above product and advises NHS Boards and Area Drug and Therapeutic Committees on its use in NHS Scotland. The advice is summarised as follows:

ADVICE: following an abbreviated submission

valsartan 320 mg tablet (Diovan®) is accepted for use in NHS Scotland for the treatment of hypertension.

In patients for whom the use of valsartan is appropriate it allows administration of a 320 mg dose as a single tablet at less cost than 2 x 160 mg capsules. Angiotensin receptor blockers are an alternative to ACE inhibitors where these are not tolerated.

Advice context:

No part of this advice may be used without the whole of the advice being quoted in full.

This advice represents the view of the Scottish Medicines Consortium and was arrived at after evaluation of the evidence submitted by the company. It is provided to inform the considerations of Area Drug & Therapeutics Committees and NHS Boards in Scotland in determining medicines for local use or local formulary inclusion. This advice does not override the individual responsibility of health professionals to make decisions in the exercise of their clinical judgement in the circumstances of the individual patient, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer.

This assessment is based on data submitted by the applicant company up to and including 23 January 2008.

**Vice-Chairman,
Scottish Medicines Consortium**