



Medicine: erenumab (brand name: Aimovig®) for the prevention of migraine

Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd

What is erenumab for?

Erenumab is used for the prevention of migraine in adults who have at least four migraine days per month. Migraines are usually severe headaches often felt as a throbbing pain at the side of the head. Other symptoms can include disturbed vision, sensitivity to light, sound and smells, feeling sick and vomiting. The high frequency and severity of migraine symptoms can be extremely debilitating and may have a substantial impact on day-to-day and work related activities. Chronic migraine is a particularly severe type of migraine where sufferers have more than fifteen headache days a month, of which at least eight days are migraine days.

How does erenumab work?

A protein called calcitonin gene related product (CGRP) is involved in causing the symptoms of migraine. Erenumab blocks the activity of CGRP, helping to prevent these symptoms.

What has SMC said?

SMC has accepted erenumab for the prevention of migraine in adults. This acceptance is restricted for use in patients with chronic migraine (as defined above) who have failed to respond to at least three other preventative treatments.



Why has SMC said this?

SMC looks at how well new medicines work compared with current treatments available in Scotland and in relation to how much they will cost to buy and administer (for example, if the medicine has to be given at a clinic or side effects have to be monitored).

SMC carefully considers every new medicine to make sure it benefits patients and is considered to be an acceptable use of the limited resources in NHSScotland. When SMC assesses a medicine it takes account of the needs of all patients in NHSScotland, not just those who may be treated with the medicine under consideration.

To do this SMC consider the following:

- Clinical trial and economic evidence from the company that makes the medicine.
- Advice from healthcare professionals about any benefits of the new medicine compared to current treatment, along with how the new medicine is likely to be used.
- Information from patient groups about the potential impact of the medicine on patients and carers.

After careful consideration of the evidence and after the company applied a confidential discount to the cost of the medicine, SMC was able to accept erenumab as a possible treatment within NHSScotland.

What does SMC's decision mean for me?

If your healthcare professional thinks that erenumab for use as described above is the right medicine for you, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS in Scotland. For further information see:

Medicines in Scotland: What's the right treatment for me?

www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/medicinesbooklet.aspx



More information

The organisations below can provide more information and support for people with migraine and their families. SMC is not responsible for the content of any information provided by external organisations.

The Migraine Trust



<https://www.migrainetrust.org/>



0203 9510 150

National Migraine Centre



<https://www.nationalmigrainecentre.org.uk/>



0207 251 3322

You can find out more about erenumab in the European public assessment report (EPAR) summary for the public by searching for the medicine name on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website.



<http://www.ema.europa.eu>

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