



Medicine: encorafenib (brand name: Braftovi®) for advanced melanoma with a BRAF V600 mutation

Pierre Fabre Ltd

What is encorafenib for?

Encorafenib is used to treat patients with melanoma, which is a type of skin cancer. It is used to treat adult patients with advanced melanoma that cannot be removed by surgery (unresectable) or has spread to other parts of the body (metastatic). Encorafenib is used with another medicine called binimetinib in patients whose cancer cells have a genetic change (mutation) called BRAF V600.

How does encorafenib work?

Encorafenib works by blocking a protein, called BRAF, which helps cells to multiply. In melanoma cells with the BRAF V600 mutation, the BRAF protein is overactive. This causes the cells to multiply in an uncontrolled way. By blocking BRAF V600, encorafenib helps slow the growth and development of the cancer cells.

What has SMC said?

SMC has not recommended encorafenib for the treatment of adults with advanced melanoma as described above.



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, SMC decided the evidence from the company was not strong enough to be certain that encorafenib offers value for money to NHSScotland. This was despite applying extra flexibility as encorafenib is a medicine for a rare, end of life condition.

What does SMC's decision mean for me?

Encorafenib should not normally be prescribed on the NHS in Scotland for use as described above. Your healthcare professional should talk to you about other treatment options available to you. If your healthcare professional believes that encorafenib would be of benefit, he or she can make a request to prescribe it for you. All health boards have procedures in place to consider these requests.

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 melanoma and their families. SMC is not responsible for the content of any information provided by external organisations.

Melanoma Action and Support Scotland (MASScot)



<http://www.masscot.org.uk>



0141 946 2017

Melanoma UK



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



0808 171 2455

You can find out more about encorafenib 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>

Date advice published: 8 July 2019

SMC No: (SMC2145)