

Medicine: triptorelin (brand name: Decapeptyl SR[®]) for endocrine responsive early stage breast cancer at high risk of recurrence

Ipsen Ltd

What is triptorelin for?

Triptorelin is used to treat breast cancer that is endocrine responsive. In endocrine responsive breast cancer, the cancer cells have oestrogen receptors (ER positive) or progesterone receptors (PR positive) on their surface. Triptorelin is used together with tamoxifen or an aromatase inhibitor (other types of medicines for breast cancer), to treat early stage breast cancer that has a high risk of coming back. It is used in women who have had surgery and chemotherapy and who have not been through the menopause.

How does triptorelin work?

Triptorelin stops the ovaries from producing the female hormone oestrogen. Oestrogen helps endocrine responsive breast cancers to grow. By blocking the production of oestrogen, triptorelin can help to reduce oestrogen levels which helps to slow or block the growth of the cancer.

What has SMC said?

SMC has accepted triptorelin for the treatment of early stage endocrine responsive breast cancer 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 of the evidence and after the company applied a confidential discount to the cost of the medicine, SMC was able to accept triptorelin as a possible treatment within NHSScotland.

What does SMC's decision mean for me?

If your healthcare professional thinks that triptorelin 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 breast cancer and their families. SMC is not responsible for the content of any information provided by external organisations.

Breast Cancer Care & Breast Cancer Now



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



0808 800 6000



<https://breastcancer.org/>



0333 20 70 300

You can find out more about triptorelin (Decapeptyl SR) by searching for the patient information leaflet (PIL) on the electronic medicines compendium website.



<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc>

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