



Medicine: pentosan polysulfate (brand name: Elmiron®) for bladder pain syndrome

Consilient Health Ltd

What is pentosan polysulfate for?

Pentosan polysulfate is used to treat bladder pain syndrome, which is a chronic long-term condition that can cause pain in the bladder area and a frequent urge to urinate. Some patients need to pass urine hourly which has a big impact on sleeping and daily activities. Pentosan polysulfate is used to treat bladder pain syndrome in patients who have moderate to severe pain and many small bleeds (glomerulations) or sores (Hunner's lesions) in the wall of the bladder.

How does pentosan polysulfate work?

Pentosan polysulfate passes into the urine and acts locally to form a protective layer on the lining of the bladder. This may help to repair the inflamed bladder lining, reducing pain and other symptoms.

What has SMC said?

SMC has accepted pentosan polysulfate for bladder pain syndrome 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, applying extra flexibility because pentosan polysulfate is a medicine for a rare condition and after receiving a confidential discount from the company, SMC was able to accept it as a possible treatment within NHS Scotland.

What does SMC's decision mean for me?

If your healthcare professional thinks that pentosan polysulfate for use as described above is the right medicine for you, you should be able to have your 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 bladder pain syndrome and their families. SMC is not responsible for the content of any information provided by external organisations.

Bladder Health UK



<https://bladderhealthuk.org/>



0121 702 0820

Bladder and Bowel Community



<http://www.bladderandbowel.org>



01926 357 220

You can find out more about pentosan polysulfate (Elmiron) 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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