

Medicine: lorlatinib (brand name: Lorviqua[®])

Pfizer Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed lorlatinib for the treatment of advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) that is ALK positive. Lorlatinib was assessed for use on its own in adults whose disease has progressed on other similar medicines (including alectinib, ceritinib, or crizotinib). This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted lorlatinib on an interim basis (interim acceptance) for the treatment of ALK positive NSCLC as described above. Interim acceptance is an option available to SMC for medicines which have received a conditional marketing authorisation or licence. This means that lorlatinib is accepted for use subject to ongoing evaluation and reassessment once further evidence is available.

This advice takes into account a confidential discount offered by the pharmaceutical company that improves the cost-effectiveness of lorlatinib. In addition, SMC was able to apply a more [flexible approach*](#) in the assessment, as it is for a condition where patients are likely to have a life expectancy of less than three years with currently available treatments.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

The decision to accept lorlatinib on an interim basis means that if your healthcare professional thinks that it is the right medicine for you, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS in Scotland. Once further evidence is available, SMC will reassess the medicine and provide an updated decision on its routine availability in NHSScotland. For further information about the interim acceptance option please see:

<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/how-we-decide/interim-acceptance-decision-option/>



What is lorlatinib used for?

Lorlatinib is used to treat a type of lung cancer called non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). It is for those patients whose cancer cells have a genetic change (mutation) that affects the gene responsible for making a protein called anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK). This leads to a faulty version of the ALK protein being produced. Lorlatinib is used on its own in patients with advanced NSCLC and the ALK gene mutation (known as ALK positive NSCLC). It is used in patients whose cancer has got worse despite previous treatment with a medicine called alectinib or ceritinib, (which are ALK inhibitors); or has got worse despite previous treatment with crizotinib followed by another ALK inhibitor.

*<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/4731/pace-overview-document.pdf>

How does lorlatinib work?

Lorlatinib is an ALK inhibitor and is an example of a targeted therapy for lung cancer. It works by binding to the faulty ALK protein, blocking the processes that result in the growth and spread of cancer cells.

How does SMC make its decision?

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.

To do this SMC consider the following:

- Evidence from the company about how well the medicine works compared with current treatments available in Scotland, in relation to how much they will cost to buy and administer.
- Information from patient groups about the potential impact of the medicine on patients and carers.
- 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.

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.

You can find more detailed information about the SMC assessment of lorlatinib by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2239).

More information

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

ALK Positive Lung Cancer UK



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

Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation



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



0800 358 7200

Scottish Lung Cancer Nurses Forum



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



01675 477607

You can find out more about lorlatinib 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>