



# Medicine: fampridine (brand name: Fampyra®) 2<sup>nd</sup> resubmission

Biogen Idec Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed fampridine for the improvement of walking in adult patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) with walking disability. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

## What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted fampridine for the treatment of multiple sclerosis as described above.

This advice takes into account a confidential discount offered by the pharmaceutical company that improves the cost-effectiveness of fampridine.

### What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

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



## What is fampridine used for?

Fampridine is used for the improvement of walking in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) who have walking disability. MS is a life-long, progressive neurological condition affecting the central nervous system. It is an autoimmune disease that causes the immune system, which normally fights infection, to start attacking healthy cells. In MS the immune system attacks the brain or spinal cord, resulting in damage to the protective coating around the nerve fibres. This damage means that electrical signals that are passed along the nerves to stimulate the muscles are not transmitted properly. This can lead to muscle weakness, stiffness and difficulty walking.

## How does fampridine work?

Fampridine stops potassium leaving damaged nerves, allowing signals to continue along the nerves more normally to stimulate the muscles. This can make walking easier for some people.

## 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 fampridine by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2253).

## More information

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

### MS Society



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



0808 800 8000

### Multiple Sclerosis Trust



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



0800 032 38 39

You can find out more about fampridine 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>