



Medicine: insulin glargine/lixisenatide (brand name: Suliqua®)

Aventis Pharma Limited, trading as Sanofi

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed insulin glargine/lixisenatide for the treatment of adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM). Insulin glargine/lixisenatide is used together with an oral anti-diabetic medicine (called metformin), when metformin on its own or with another oral anti-diabetic medicine, or with basal insulin have not been enough to control blood glucose levels. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted insulin glargine/lixisenatide for use in certain patients (restricted use).

The restriction means that insulin glargine/lixisenatide together with metformin may be used to treat patients whose blood sugar levels have not been satisfactorily controlled with metformin and insulin, where a type of medicine called a GLP-1 agonist is considered to be a suitable option to help achieve control.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that insulin glargine/lixisenatide 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 insulin glargine/lixisenatide used for?

Insulin glargine/lixisenatide is used for the treatment adult patients with T2DM, which is a condition in which there is too much glucose (sugar) present in the blood. T2DM develops when the body either does not make enough insulin (a hormone which helps glucose to be used in the body) or when the insulin that is produced does not work properly. Insulin glargine/lixisenatide is used to improve blood glucose levels (glycaemic control) when taken together with metformin.

How does insulin glargine/lixisenatide work?

Insulin glargine/lixisenatide is a combination of two medicines in one injection. Insulin glargine is a long-acting type of insulin that helps to control the level of blood glucose throughout the day. Lixisenatide is a type of medicine called a GLP-1 agonist. GLP-1 agonists act to control blood glucose

levels by helping the body to produce more insulin during meals and by slowing the absorption of glucose from food.

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. Unfortunately SMC was not able to obtain a patient group submission for this 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.

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 insulin glargine/lixisenatide by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2235).

More information

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

Diabetes Scotland UK



https://www.diabetes.org.uk/in_your_area/scotland



0141 212 8710

You can find out more about insulin glargine/lixisenatide 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>