



Medicine: dapagliflozin (brand name: Forxiga®)

AstraZeneca UK Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed dapagliflozin for the treatment of adults with symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted dapagliflozin for the treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure as described above.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that dapagliflozin 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 dapagliflozin used for?

Dapagliflozin is used to treat adults with symptomatic chronic heart failure (CHF) with reduced ejection fraction. In patients with CHF the heart is weak and is not able to pump enough blood around the body. Reduced ejection fraction is where the fraction of blood pumped out of the heart is reduced and is less than the body needs. Symptoms caused by this include: ankle swelling, breathlessness and feeling tired all the time.

How does dapagliflozin work?

Dapagliflozin helps the kidneys to pass more salt (sodium) and water into the urine leading to a reduction in blood volume. This can help to reduce stress on the heart. Dapagliflozin may reduce the need for patients to go to hospital for treatment of their heart failure and can help some patients to live longer. Dapagliflozin may also improve symptoms associated with heart failure.

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 considers 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.
- 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 dapagliflozin by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2322).

More information

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

Pumping Marvellous Foundation



<https://pumpingmarvellous.org>



01772 796542

Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland



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



0808 801 0899

You can find out more about dapagliflozin (Forxiga®) 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>