



Medicine: nintedanib (brand name: Ofev®)

Boehringer Ingelheim

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed nintedanib for the treatment of adults with chronic fibrosing interstitial lung diseases (ILDs). It is used when these diseases have a progressive phenotype (where they keep getting worse) and are not idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF; a type of ILD where the underlying cause is unknown). This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted nintedanib for the treatment of chronic fibrosing ILDs as described above.

This SMC advice takes into account a confidential discount offered by the pharmaceutical company that improves the cost-effectiveness of nintedanib. In addition, SMC was able to apply a more [flexible approach*](#) in the assessment, as it is for a rare condition.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that nintedanib 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 nintedanib used for?

Nintedanib is used to treat patients with chronic fibrosing ILDs with a progressive phenotype. These are a group of conditions where the tissue in the lungs becomes thickened and scarred over time, and where the disease continues to get worse (progressive phenotype). Over time, this leads to increasing difficulties with breathing.

How does nintedanib work?

Nintedanib blocks enzymes called tyrosine kinases. Some of these enzymes are involved in processes making the fibrous scar tissue that develops in the lungs of patients with chronic fibrosing ILDs. By blocking these enzymes, nintedanib can help to slow down the production of the fibrous tissue and help stop the symptoms from getting worse.

*<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/how-we-decide/pace/>

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.
- 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 nintedanib by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2331).

More information

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

Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis



<https://www.actionpf.org>



01223 785 725

You can find out more about nintedanib (Ofev®) in the European public assessment report (EPAR) summary for the public by searching for the medicine name on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website.



<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en>