

# Medicine: bempedoic acid (brand name: Nilemdo®) Resubmission

Daiichi Sankyo UK Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed bempedoic acid for the treatment of adults with primary hypercholesterolaemia or mixed dyslipidaemia. It is used alongside diet, either on its own or with other cholesterol lowering medication. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

## What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted bempedoic acid for treatment as described above in certain patients (restricted use). The restriction means that bempedoic acid used alongside diet and in combination with ezetimibe (another cholesterol lowering medicine), may be used in patients who:

- cannot take statins (a type of cholesterol lowering medicine); and
- when ezetimibe alone doesn't lower cholesterol enough; and
- where medicines called PCSK9 inhibitors (another type of medicine used to lower cholesterol) are not appropriate.

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

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

If your healthcare professional thinks that bempedoic acid 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 bempedoic acid used for?

Bempedoic acid is used to lower the level of LDL-cholesterol in the blood. This is often referred to as "bad cholesterol" because too much LDL-cholesterol can lead to heart problems. Bempedoic acid is used in patients who have primary hypercholesterolaemia or mixed dyslipidaemia. Both of these conditions cause high levels of cholesterol in the blood.

## How does bempedoic acid work?

Bempedoic acid blocks a protein that is needed to produce cholesterol. Blocking this protein decreases the production of cholesterol in the liver and increases the removal of LDL-cholesterol from the blood.

## 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.
- 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 bempedoic acid by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2363).

## More information

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

### Heart UK – The Cholesterol Charity



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



[ask@heartuk.org.uk](mailto:ask@heartuk.org.uk)

You can find out more about bempedoic acid (Nilemdo®) 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>