



Medicine: avatrombopag (brand name: Doptelet®)

Swedish Orphan Biovitrum Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed avatrombopag for the treatment of adults with primary chronic immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) who have not responded well enough to other treatments, such as corticosteroids or immunoglobulins. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted avatrombopag for the treatment of ITP as described above in certain patients (restricted use). The restriction means that avatrombopag may be used in patients with severe ITP symptoms or who are at a high risk of bleeding.

This SMC advice takes into account a confidential discount offered by the pharmaceutical company that improves the cost-effectiveness of avatrombopag. 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 avatrombopag 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 avatrombopag used for?

Avatrombopag is used to treat chronic ITP, a long-term condition where the immune system destroys platelets in the blood. Platelets are needed to help form blood clots and stop bleeding. Patients with ITP have low platelet counts which may cause them to suffer from fatigue and to bruise and bleed easily.

How does avatrombopag work?

Platelets are made in the bone marrow. Avatrombopag stimulates the bone marrow to produce more platelets, helping to increase the number of platelets in the bloodstream. This helps the blood to clot more easily.

*<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 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 avatrombopag by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2345).

More information

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

The ITP Support Association



<https://itpsupport.org.uk/index.php/en/>



01234 376 559

You can find out more about avatrombopag (Doptelet®) 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>