



Medicine: osimertinib (brand name: Tagrisso®)

AstraZeneca UK Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed osimertinib given on its own for the adjuvant treatment (treatment to help stop the cancer coming back) of adult patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) that is stage Ib to IIIA, where the cancer has been successfully removed by surgery. It is for use in patients where the cancer cells have changes (mutations) in a gene called *EGFR* known as Ex19del or L858R. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted osimertinib for the treatment of NSCLC as described above, for restricted use. The restriction means that treatment with osimertinib can be continued for up to three years.

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

Osimertinib is used to help stop the cancer coming back after it has been successfully removed by surgery, in patients with NSCLC that is stage Ib to IIIA. Osimertinib is only for those patients where the cancer cells have changes in a gene called *EGFR* known as Ex19del or L858R. When the cancer is removed it can be tested for these genetic changes.

How does osimertinib work?

In patients with NSCLC, where the cancer cells have an *EGFR* gene that has Ex19del or L858R mutations the EGFR gene makes a faulty EGFR protein, which drives the growth of the cancer cells. Osimertinib is an example of a targeted therapy for lung cancer. It works by blocking the activity of the faulty EGFR protein which helps to prevent the growth and spread of the cancer cells.

*<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 only those who may be treated with the medicine under consideration.

You can find more detailed information about the SMC assessment of osimertinib by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2383).

More information

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

EGFR Positive UK

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

Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation

 <https://www.roycastle.org>

 0333 323 7200

Scottish Lung Cancer Nurses Forum – affiliated to Lung Cancer Nursing UK

 <http://www.lcnuk.org>

 01675 477607

You can find out more about osimertinib (Tagrisso®) 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>