



## Medicine: amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion (brand name: Arikayce®) Resubmission

Insmed Limited

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion for the treatment of adults with a type of lung infection known as a non-tuberculous mycobacterial (NTM) infection, which is caused by a group of bacteria called *Mycobacterium avium complex* (MAC). It is used in patients who have limited treatment options and do not have cystic fibrosis (a genetic condition that affects the lungs). Official guidance on the appropriate use of antibiotics should be considered. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

### What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion for the treatment of the type of lung infection described above.

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

Amikacin is used in combination with other antibiotics to treat a chronic (long-term) type of lung infection which is caused by a group of bacteria called *Mycobacterium avium complex*. These bacteria can cause serious infections in the lungs of susceptible people, for example those with underlying lung disease or depressed immune systems.

### How does amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion work?

Amikacin is a type of antibiotic that kills bacteria by preventing them from producing proteins that they need to make their cell walls. In the amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion medicine, the amikacin is contained in tiny fat bubbles called liposomes that the patient breathes in via a nebuliser system allowing the medicine to enter the patient's lungs directly. The fat bubbles help the antibiotic stay in the lungs and fight the infection for longer.

\*<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 amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2432).

## More information

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

### NTM Patient Care UK



<https://www.ntmpatientcare.uk>

You can find out more about amikacin liposomal nebuliser dispersion (Arikayce®) 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>