



Medicine: cenobamate (brand name: Ontozry®)

Arvelle Therapeutics

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed cenobamate for treating adult patients with epilepsy (seizures). It is used to treat seizures that start in one specific part of the brain (focal seizures) and may or may not spread to the whole brain (secondary generalisation). Cenobamate is used as an add-on to other medicines for epilepsy, in patients with seizures that are not controlled despite having tried at least two other treatments. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted cenobamate for treating epilepsy as described above, in certain patients (restricted use). The restriction means that cenobamate can be used to treat patients who have drug-resistant epilepsy, as an add-on treatment to other anti-epilepsy medicines where the first add-on treatment has failed.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that cenobamate 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 cenobamate used for?

Cenobamate is used to treat seizures. It is used to treat adults with seizures that have started in one part of the brain (focal seizures) and may or may not have spread to the rest of the brain (secondary generalisation). It is used together with other anti-epileptic medicines (as an add-on treatment) in patients whose seizures have not been controlled despite trying two or more previous treatments (known as drug-resistant epilepsy). SMC accepted cenobamate for patients with drug resistant epilepsy where their first add-on treatment has failed to control their seizures adequately.

How does cenobamate work?

Epilepsy is caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain. Cenobamate affects the activity of channels that allow the transmission of electrical impulses between nerve cells. This may help to

decrease abnormal electrical activity in the brain and reduce the chance of the patient having a seizure.

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 cenobamate by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2408).

More information

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

Epilepsy Scotland



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



0808 800 2200

Epilepsy Connections



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



0141 248 4125

Epilepsy Action



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



0808 800 5050

You can find out more about cenobamate (Ontozry®) in the Patient Leaflet by searching for the medicine name on the electronic medicines compendium (EMC) website.



<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/>