



Medicine: oritavancin (brand name: Tenkasi®)

Menarini Pharmaceuticals UK

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed oritavancin for the treatment of adults with acute bacterial skin and skin structure infections. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted oritavancin for the treatment of bacterial skin infections in certain patients (restricted use).

The restriction means that oritavancin should be used only where the patient's infection has been confirmed or is suspected to be caused by a type of antibiotic resistant bacteria called methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), where the patient is eligible for early discharge.

Treatment should be on the advice of local microbiologists or specialists in infectious disease.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that oritavancin 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 oritavancin used for?

Oritavancin is used to treat acute (short-term) bacterial infections that affect the skin or the structures under the skin. Examples of these infections include: cellulitis, skin abscesses and wound infections. SMC has accepted oritavancin to treat these infections when they are caused by a type of antibiotic resistant bacteria called MRSA, as described above.

How does oritavancin work?

Oritavancin is a type of antibiotic. It works by preventing bacteria from making their cell walls. By doing this it helps to kill the bacteria and treat the infection. Oritavancin has been shown to work on antibiotic resistant infections like MRSA which standard antibiotics don't work against.

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 oritavancin by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2285).

More information

Further information, advice and support for patients with skin infections such as cellulitis and their carers can be found through the NHS inform web-site:



<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions>

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



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