



## Medicine: dapagliflozin (brand name: Forxiga®)

AstraZeneca UK Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed dapagliflozin for the treatment of adults with chronic kidney disease. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

### What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted dapagliflozin for treating adults with chronic kidney disease for restricted use. The restriction means that dapagliflozin can be used in patients with:

- an estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR; a measure of the volume of blood being filtered by the kidneys) of between 25 and 75 ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup> at the start of treatment, and who are receiving treatment with medicines called angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin receptor blockers (if they are able to take them); and
- a urine albumin to creatinine ratio (uACR; a measure of the concentration of albumin in the urine, where a higher concentration indicates more kidney damage) of at least 23mg/mmol, or type 2 diabetes or both.

### What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that dapagliflozin 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 dapagliflozin used for?

Dapagliflozin is used to treat adults with chronic kidney disease which is a long-term condition where the kidneys don't work as well as they should. Symptoms can include: tiredness, swollen ankles and shortness of breath. SMC has accepted dapagliflozin for use in certain patients with chronic kidney disease, as described above.

### How does dapagliflozin work?

Dapagliflozin helps the kidneys to pass more salt (sodium) and water into the urine leading to a reduction in blood volume and reduced pressure in the kidneys. This can help support the function of the kidneys in patients with chronic kidney disease.

## 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.
- 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 dapagliflozin by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2428).

## More information

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

### Kidney Research UK



<https://www.kidneyresearchuk.org>



0300 303 1100

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



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