



Medicine: solriamfetol (brand name: Sunosi®)

Jazz Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed solriamfetol for improving wakefulness and reducing excessive daytime sleepiness in adults with narcolepsy (with or without cataplexy). This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted solriamfetol for improving wakefulness and reducing excessive daytime sleepiness in adults with narcolepsy, as described above, for restricted use. The restriction means that solriamfetol may be used in patients who cannot take another medicine called modafinil or where modafinil has not worked well enough to control their symptoms.

SMC was able to apply a more [flexible approach](#)* in the assessment of solriamfetol, as it is for a rare condition.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that solriamfetol 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 solriamfetol used for?

Solriamfetol is used to improve wakefulness and reduce excessive daytime sleepiness in adults with narcolepsy. Narcolepsy is a long-term sleep disorder which affects the brain's ability to regulate the normal sleep-wake cycle. This leads to symptoms such as an irresistible urge to sleep, even at inappropriate times and places (such as during eating, or speaking), and disturbed night-time sleep. Some patients with narcolepsy can also suffer from a symptom called cataplexy (severe muscle weakness in response to emotions such as anger, fear, laughter or surprise that may cause a person to collapse). Solriamfetol can be used in patients with or without cataplexy.

How does solriamfetol work?

Solriamfetol helps to increase the amounts of chemical messengers in the brain called dopamine and noradrenaline. These carry signals between neurons and may help to make people feel more awake.

*<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 solriamfetol by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2439).

More information

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

Narcolepsy UK



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



0345 450 0394

The Sleep Charity



<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk>



03303 530 541

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



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