



Medicine: imlifidase (brand name: Idefirix®)

Hansa Biopharma AB

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed imlifidase for the desensitisation of highly sensitised adult patients (patients who have antibodies against the donor kidney) who have a positive cross-match against an available deceased donor. It should be reserved for use in patients who are unlikely to obtain a kidney transplant under the available kidney allocation system. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted imlifidase for helping prevent rejection of a newly transplanted kidney, as described above.

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

Highly sensitised patients are a group of patients who have high levels of antibodies making them more likely to reject a donor kidney. Imlifidase is used for the desensitisation of those patients who have a positive cross-match against an available deceased donor and it helps prevent rejection of the newly transplanted kidney. It should be reserved for use in patients who are unlikely to obtain a kidney transplant under the available kidney allocation system.

How does imlifidase work?

Imlifidase is an enzyme that breaks down the IgG antibodies produced by highly sensitised patients. By reducing the levels of IgG antibodies it can help reduce the likelihood that the patient's body will reject the donor kidney.

*<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 imlifidase by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2445).

More information

The organisation below can provide more information and support for people undergoing kidney transplants 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 imlifidase (Idefirix®) in the Patient Leaflet by searching for the medicine name on the electronic medicines compendium (EMC) website.



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