



Medicine: sacituzumab govitecan (brand name: Trodelvy®)

Gilead Sciences Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed sacituzumab govitecan for the treatment of adult patients with triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) which is locally advanced and unresectable or metastatic. It is used for treating patients who have already had two or more treatments, with at least one of them being for advanced cancer. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted sacituzumab govitecan for treating adults with TNBC as described above.

This SMC advice takes into account a confidential discount offered by the pharmaceutical company that improves the cost-effectiveness of sacituzumab govitecan. In addition, SMC was able to apply a more [flexible approach](#)* in the assessment, as it is for a rare condition where patients are likely to have a life expectancy of less than three years with currently available treatments.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that sacituzumab govitecan 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 sacituzumab govitecan used for?

Sacituzumab govitecan is used for the treatment of adult patients with TNBC. Triple negative breast cancer cells do not have receptors for the hormones oestrogen and progesterone and also do not have a protein called the human epithelial growth factor receptor 2 (HER2). It is an aggressive type of breast cancer. Sacituzumab govitecan is used to treat TNBC which is locally advanced (spread nearby from where it started) and unresectable (cannot be removed by surgery), or metastatic (spread to other parts of the body).

How does sacituzumab govitecan work?

Sacituzumab govitecan is an antibody (sacituzumab) linked to an anti-cancer drug (SN-38), that targets cells with Trop-2 proteins on their surface. Trop-2 is expressed at high levels on the surface of TNBC cells. By targeting Trop-2 the antibody enables direct delivery of SN-38 to tumour cells. Once inside the tumour cells, SN-38 prevents them from being able to repair damaged DNA, this prevents them from multiplying and they eventually die.

*<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 sacituzumab govitecan by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2446).

More information

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

Breast Cancer Now



<https://breastcancernow.org>



0808 800 6000

METUPUK



<https://metupuk.org.uk>

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



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