



Medicine: selpercatinib (brand name: Retsevmo®)

Eli Lilly and Company Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed selpercatinib for the treatment of two groups of patients with thyroid cancer where their cancer cells have a change in a gene called *RET*:

- Adult patients with advanced *RET* fusion-positive thyroid cancer who have already had treatment with the cancer medicines sorafenib or lenvatinib or both.
- Patients 12 years and older who have advanced *RET*-mutant medullary thyroid cancer who have already had treatment with the cancer medicines cabozantinib or vandetanib or both.

This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted selpercatinib on an interim basis (interim acceptance) for the treatment of advanced thyroid cancer as described above. Interim acceptance is an option available to SMC for certain* medicines. This means that selpercatinib is accepted for use subject to ongoing evaluation and reassessment once further evidence is available.

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

The decision to accept selpercatinib on an interim basis means that if your healthcare professional thinks that it is the right medicine for you, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS in Scotland. Once further evidence is available, SMC will reassess the medicine and provide an updated decision on its routine availability in NHSScotland.



What is selpercatinib used for?

Selpercatinib is used to treat advanced thyroid cancer including a rare form called medullary thyroid cancer, where the cancer cells have a change in a gene called *RET*. The thyroid is a gland in the neck that produces hormones that help to regulate how the body turns food into energy (metabolism).

*<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/how-we-decide/interim-acceptance-decision-option/>

**<https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/how-we-decide/pace/>

Symptoms of advanced thyroid cancer include: pain, difficulty swallowing, hoarseness and shortness of breath.

How does selpercatinib work?

Changes in the *RET* gene can lead to the production of abnormal proteins in cancer cells that help them grow. Selpercatinib blocks the activity of these abnormal proteins, slowing down and helping to prevent the growth of the cancer cells.

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 selpercatinib by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2370).

More information

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

Association for Multiple Neoplasia Endocrine Disorders (AMEND)



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

Butterfly Thyroid Cancer Trust



<http://www.butterfly.org.uk>



01207 545 469

You can find out more about selpercatinib (Retsevmo®) in the European public assessment report (EPAR) summary for the public by searching for the medicine name on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website.



<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en>