

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde: New Medicines Decisions

In Scotland, a newly licensed medicine is routinely available in a health board only after it has been:

- accepted for use in NHSScotland by the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC), and
- accepted for use by the health board's Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC).

All medicines accepted by SMC are available in Scotland, but may not be considered 'routinely available' within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGG&C) because of available services and preferences.

'Routinely available' means that a medicine can be prescribed by the appropriately qualified person within a health board.

Each health board has an ADTC. The Greater Glasgow and Clyde ADTC is responsible for advising the NHSGG&C health board on all aspects of the use of medicines.

Medicines routinely available within NHSGG&C are usually included in the GGC Formulary. The Formulary is a list of medicines for use in the health board that has been agreed by ADTC in consultation with healthcare professionals to prescribe for common medical conditions. The GGC Formulary can help improve safety as prescribers are likely to become more familiar with the medicines included, which are consistent across the health board.

How does NHSGG&C decide which new medicines to make routinely available for patients?

The ADTC in NHSGG&C will consider national and local guidance before deciding whether to make a new medicine routinely available.

What national guidance does the ADTC consider?

- SMC advice: The SMC considers newly licensed medicines and advises health boards in Scotland whether they should be available. When SMC considers a new medicine for the NHS in Scotland
 - how well the medicine works,
 - which patients might benefit from it,
 - whether it is as good or better than medicines the NHS already uses to treat the medical condition, and
 - whether it is good value for money.
- In the table below, national guidance usually refers to SMC advice. Links to SMC advice for individual medicines are also included in the table.
- In some cases, other agencies may also provide guidance on how medicines should be used. For example, Healthcare Improvement Scotland issues alerts to advise if National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) appraisals (NICE MTAs) are applicable in Scotland.

What local guidance does the ADTC consider?

- Advice from local clinical experts who would be expected to prescribe a particular medicine, where that service is available in NHSGG&C.

Why is a particular medicine not routinely available in NHSGG&C?

- This is usually because the medicine is not recommended for use in NHSScotland by the SMC.
- The medicine may not be routinely available in a health board, particularly in smaller health boards, because there is not a suitable specialist who may use the medicine.
- There may also be differences in which medicines are preferred in health boards. Sometimes SMC accepts more than one medicine for treating a specific medical condition. Clinical experts in each health board advise the ADTC on their preferred medicines to their formulary and advise the ADTC. Sometimes it is agreed that established medicines are a better choice than new medicines.

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
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<p>Abemaciclib tablets Verzenios® SMC2494</p>	<p>in combination with endocrine therapy for the adjuvant treatment of adult patients with hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative, node-positive early breast cancer at high risk of recurrence. In pre- or perimenopausal women, aromatase inhibitor endocrine therapy should be combined with a luteinising hormone-releasing hormone (LHRH) agonist.</p>	<p>Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>
<p>Alpelisib tablets Piqray® SMC2481</p>	<p>In combination with fulvestrant for the treatment of postmenopausal women, and men, with hormone receptor (HR)-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative, locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer with a PIK3CA mutation after disease progression following endocrine-based therapy.</p>	<p>Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>
<p>Asciminib tablet Scemblix® SMC2482</p>	<p>Treatment of adult patients with Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukaemia in chronic phase (Ph+ CML-CP), previously treated with two or more tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs), and without a known T315I mutation.</p>	<p>Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>
<p>Belimumab pre-filled pen/ syringe Benlysta® SMC2530</p>	<p>Add-on therapy in adult patients with active, autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) with a high degree of disease activity (e.g. positive anti-dsDNA and low complement) despite standard therapy.</p>	<p>Routinely available in line with national guidance</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>

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Belimumab infusion Benlysta® SMC2477	Add-on therapy in patients aged 5 years and older with active, autoantibody-positive systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) with a high degree of disease activity (e.g., positive anti-dsDNA and low complement) despite standard therapy.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	12/12/2022
Brolucizumab injection Beovu® SMC2508	In adults for the treatment of visual impairment due to diabetic macular oedema.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance 12/12/2022	12/12/2022
Buprenorphine with Naloxone sublingual tablet Zubsolv® SMC2123	Substitution treatment for opioid drug dependence, within a framework of medical, social and psychological treatment. Treatment is intended for use in adults and adolescents over 15 years of age who have agreed to be treated for addiction.	Not routinely available as local clinical experts do not wish to add the medicine to the Formulary at this time or there is a local preference for alternative	12/12/2022
Esketamine nasal spray Spravato® SMC2539	Co-administered with oral antidepressant therapy, in adults with a moderate to severe episode of Major Depressive Disorder, as acute short-term treatment, for the rapid reduction of depressive symptoms, which according to clinical judgement constitute a psychiatric emergency.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	12/12/2022

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Faricimab injection Vabysmo® SMC2499	Treatment of adult patients with visual impairment due to diabetic macular oedema (DMO)	Routinely available in line with national guidance	12/12/2022
Faricimab injection Vabysmo® SMC2512	Treatment of adult patients with neovascular (wet) age-related macular degeneration (nAMD).	Routinely available in line with national guidance	12/12/2022
Finerenone tablet Kerendia® SMC2486	Treatment of chronic kidney disease (stage 3 and 4 with albuminuria) associated with type 2 diabetes in adults.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	12/12/2022
Levofloxacin with Dexamethasone eye drops Duressa® SMC2511	Prevention and treatment of inflammation, and prevention of infection associated with cataract surgery in adults. Consideration should be given to official guidance on the appropriate use of antibacterial agents.	Routinely available in line with national guidance	12/12/2022

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<p>Micronised Progesterone capsule Utrogestan® SMC2529</p>	<p>Adjunctive use with oestrogen in post-menopausal women with an intact uterus, as hormone replacement therapy (HRT).</p>	<p>Routinely available in line with national guidance</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>
<p>Sodium zirconium cyclosilicate suspension Lokelma® SMC2515</p>	<p>Treatment of hyperkalaemia in adult patients</p>	<p>Routinely available in line with national guidance</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>
<p>Upadacitinib tablet Rinvoq® SMC2480</p>	<p>Treatment of active ankylosing spondylitis (AS) in adult patients who have responded inadequately to conventional therapy.</p>	<p>Routinely available in line with national guidance</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>
<p>Upadacitinib tablet Rinvoq® SMC2495</p>	<p>Treatment of moderate to severe active rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in adult patients who have responded inadequately to, or who are intolerant to one or more disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs). Upadacitinib may be used as monotherapy or in combination with methotrexate.</p>	<p>Routinely available in line with national guidance</p>	<p>12/12/2022</p>

Medicine	Condition being treated	NHSGGC Decision	Date of decision
Venetoclax tablet Venclyxto® SMC2509	In combination with low-dose cytarabine for the treatment of adult patients with newly-diagnosed acute myeloid leukaemia (AML) who are ineligible for intensive chemotherapy.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHSScotland	12/12/2022
Zanubrutinib capsule Brukinsa® SMC2528	Monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with Waldenström's macroglobulinaemia (WM) who have received at least one prior therapy, or in first line treatment for patients unsuitable for chemo-immunotherapy.	Routinely available in line with local or regional guidance	12/12/2022