

SeHCAT (tauroselcholic [75 selenium] acid) for diagnosing bile acid diarrhoea

Information for the public

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NICE has not recommended SeHCAT (tauroselcholic [75 selenium] acid) for routine use to diagnose bile acid diarrhoea in people with:

- chronic diarrhoea with an unknown cause, suspected or diagnosed diarrhoea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome (IBS-D) or functional diarrhoea
- Crohn's disease without ileal resection who have chronic diarrhoea.

NICE recognises that a good test is needed for bile acid diarrhoea but there is not enough clinical evidence about how using the SeHCAT test affects long-term clinical outcomes. We have recommended research to find out more.

SeHCAT is a diagnostic test to measure how well the body absorbs bile acids. It is a capsule that when swallowed is absorbed by the body like a bile acid and can be detected with a scan. The scan sees how much SeHCAT remains in the body. If this is less than 15% then bile acid diarrhoea is usually diagnosed.

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