

Naloxegol for treating opioid-induced constipation

Information for the public

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What has NICE said?

Naloxegol (Moventig) is recommended as a possible treatment for people with opioid-induced constipation that has had an inadequate response to laxatives.

What does this mean for me?

If you have opioid-induced constipation, and your doctor thinks that naloxegol is the right treatment, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS.

Naloxegol should be available on the NHS within 3 months of the guidance being issued.

Why has NICE said this?

Naloxegol was recommended because it works better and costs less than other treatments available on the NHS.

NICE looks at how well treatments work in relation to how much they cost compared with other treatments available on the NHS.

The condition and the treatment(s)

Although constipation has many causes, it can sometimes be a side effect of taking opiate painkillers (opioids), such as codeine and morphine. As with any kind of constipation, the symptoms of opioid-induced constipation can vary: you might not pass stools (faeces) as often as you normally do, you might have to strain more than usual or you might be unable to completely empty your bowels.

Naloxegol (Moventig) is a drug that counteracts how the opioids affect your gastrointestinal tract, without making them any less effective at reducing pain.

NHS Choices (www.nhs.uk) may be a good place to find out more.

Sources of advice and support

- Bladder & Bowel Foundation, 0845 345 0165, www.bladderandbowelfoundation.org
- Promocon, 0161 607 8219, www.disabledliving.co.uk/PromoCon

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Accreditation

