

Cenobamate for treating focal onset seizures in epilepsy

Information for the public

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Cenobamate (Ontozry) is available on the NHS as a possible add-on treatment for focal onset seizures with or without secondary generalised seizures in adults with drug-resistant epilepsy that has not been adequately controlled with at least 2 medicines. It is only available if:

- it is used after at least 1 first-line add-on treatment has not controlled seizures other first-line add-on treatments are contraindicated or not tolerated, and
- treatment is started by a healthcare professional with expertise in epilepsy, after which treatment can be continued in primary care.

If you are not eligible for cenobamate but are already having it, you should be able to continue until you and your doctor decide when best to stop.

Is this treatment right for me?

Your healthcare professionals should give you clear information, talk with you about your options and listen carefully to your views and concerns. Your family can be involved too, if you wish. Read more about [making decisions about your care](#).

Questions to think about

- How well does it work compared with other treatments?
- What are the risks or side effects? How likely are they?
- How will the treatment affect my day-to-day life?
- What happens if the treatment does not work?
- What happens if I do not want to have treatment? Are there other treatments available?

Information and support

The [NHS website](#) may be a good place to find out more.

These organisations can give you advice and support:

- [Epilepsy Action](#), 0808 800 5050
- [Young Epilepsy](#), 01342 831 342, helpline@youngepilepsy.org.uk

You can also get support from your local [Healthwatch](#).

NICE is not responsible for the quality or accuracy of any information or advice provided by these organisations.

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