

Icosapent ethyl with statin therapy for reducing the risk of cardiovascular events in people with raised triglycerides

Information for the public

Published: 13 July 2022

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Icosapent ethyl (Vazpeka) is available on the NHS. It is a possible treatment to reduce the risk of cardiovascular events in adults if:

- they are currently taking statins
- the level of triglycerides in their blood is 1.7 mmol/litre or above
- the level of LDL-C (a type of cholesterol) in their blood is above 1.04 mmol/litre and no higher than 2.60 mmol/litre, and
- they have ever had:
 - acute coronary syndrome (such as a heart attack or unstable angina needing hospitalisation)
 - procedures to help blood flow in the arteries of the heart
 - coronary heart disease
 - ischaemic stroke or
 - peripheral arterial disease.

If you are not eligible for icosapent ethyl 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:

- [Heart UK](#), 01628 777046
- [Diabetes UK](#), 0345 123 2399

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

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ISBN: 978-1-4731-4669-3