

# Ruxolitinib for treating polycythaemia vera

Information for the public

Published: 18 October 2023

[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

Ruxolitinib (Jakavi) is available on the NHS as a possible treatment for polycythaemia vera in adults who cannot tolerate hydroxycarbamide (also called hydroxyurea) or when the condition is resistant to it.

## 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. See [our webpage on 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 webpage on erythrocytosis](#) may be a good place to find out more.

These organisations can give you advice and support:

- [MPN Voice](#), [info@mpnvoice.org.uk](mailto:info@mpnvoice.org.uk)
- [Leukaemia Care](#), 020 8189 9878
- [Blood Cancer UK](#), 0808 2080 888

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.

ISBN: 978-1-4731-5471-1