

Plain English Summary

Momelotinib for treating myelofibrosis in patients with moderate to severe anaemia

What does the guidance say?

Momelotinib is not recommended for government funding for treating symptoms caused by myelofibrosis in patients with moderate to severe anaemia. It is not subsidised and is not claimable under MediShield Life.

Why was it not recommended for funding?

ACE evaluates how well a treatment works in relation to how much it costs compared to other treatments. Momelotinib was not recommended for government funding because it is unlikely to represent an acceptable use of healthcare resources at the price proposed by the company. If you need momelotinib for this condition, you can speak to a medical social worker to find out if there is financial assistance available to help with the cost of treatment.

What is myelofibrosis?

Myelofibrosis is a type of slow-growing bone marrow cancer. It causes the bone marrow to produce abnormal cells that grow uncontrollably and form scar tissue (fibrosis) which prevents healthy blood cells from being made. Myelofibrosis can develop on its own or from other bone marrow conditions.

Many patients with myelofibrosis do not have any symptoms initially. Overtime, symptoms can develop including pain and discomfort in the abdomen due to an enlarged spleen (splenomegaly), fatigue and weakness due to a lack of red blood cells (anaemia), frequent infections, fever, easy bruising or bleeding, bone pain, night sweats, itching, and unexplained weight loss.

What is momelotinib?

Momelotinib belongs to a group of medicines called Janus kinase (JAK) inhibitors. It helps reduce the size of the spleen and improve anaemia and other symptoms caused by myelofibrosis. It is taken orally.

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Is this the right treatment for me?

There are different types of treatments available for myelofibrosis. Your doctor may recommend you have momelotinib if they consider that it is the most suitable treatment for your condition. Your doctor should give you clear information, listen to your views and concerns, and talk to you about your treatment options.

Some of the questions you may want to ask your doctor when making decisions about your care are:

- How will the treatment affect my day-to-day activities?
- How well does it work compared to other treatments?
- What are the side effects and risks of treatment, and how likely are they?
- How much does the treatment cost, and who can I approach if I want to find out whether there is financial assistance available to help with the cost of treatment?
- How long will I need to be on the treatment for?
- What happens if the treatment stops working?
- What happens if I do not want to have treatment?

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 Agency for Care Effectiveness - ACE

 Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE)

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This summary is not, and should not be regarded as, a substitute for professional or medical advice.

Please seek the advice of a qualified healthcare professional about any medical condition.

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