In Scotland, a newly licensed medicine is routinely available in a health board only after it has been:

- accepted for use in NHS Scotland by the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC), and
- accepted for use by the health board's Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee (ADTC).

All medicines accepted by SMC are available in Scotland, but may not be considered 'routinely available' within a particular health board because of available services and preferences for alternative medicines.

'Routinely available' means that a medicine can be prescribed by the appropriately qualified person within a health board.

Each health board has an ADTC. The ADTC, Grampian Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee, is responsible for advising NHS Grampian health board on all aspects of the use of medicines.

Medicines routinely available within NHS Grampian are usually included in the Grampian Joint Formulary. The formulary is a list of medicines for use in the health board that has been agreed by the ADTC in consultation with local clinical experts. It offers a choice of medicines for healthcare professionals to prescribe for common medical conditions. A formulary can help improve safety as prescribers are likely to become more familiar with the medicines in it and also helps make sure that standards of care are consistent across the health board.

How does the health board decide which new medicines to make routinely available for patients?

The ADTC in a health board will consider national and local guidance before deciding whether to make a new medicine routinely available.

What national guidance does the ADTC consider?

- SMC advice: The SMC considers newly licensed medicines and advises health boards in Scotland whether they should be available. When SMC considers a new medicine for the NHS in Scotland, it looks at:
  - how well the medicine works,
  - which patients might benefit from it,
  - whether it is as good or better than medicines the NHS already uses to treat the medical condition, and
  - whether it is good value for money.
- In the table below, national guidance usually refers to SMC advice. Links to SMC advice for individual medicines are also included in the table.
- In some cases, other agencies may also provide guidance on how medicines should be used. For example, Healthcare Improvement Scotland issues alerts to advise if National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Multiple Technology Appraisals (NICE MTAs) are applicable in Scotland.

What local guidance does the ADTC consider?

- Advice from local clinical experts who would be expected to prescribe a particular medicine, where that service is available in a health board.

Why is a particular medicine not routinely available in NHS Grampian?

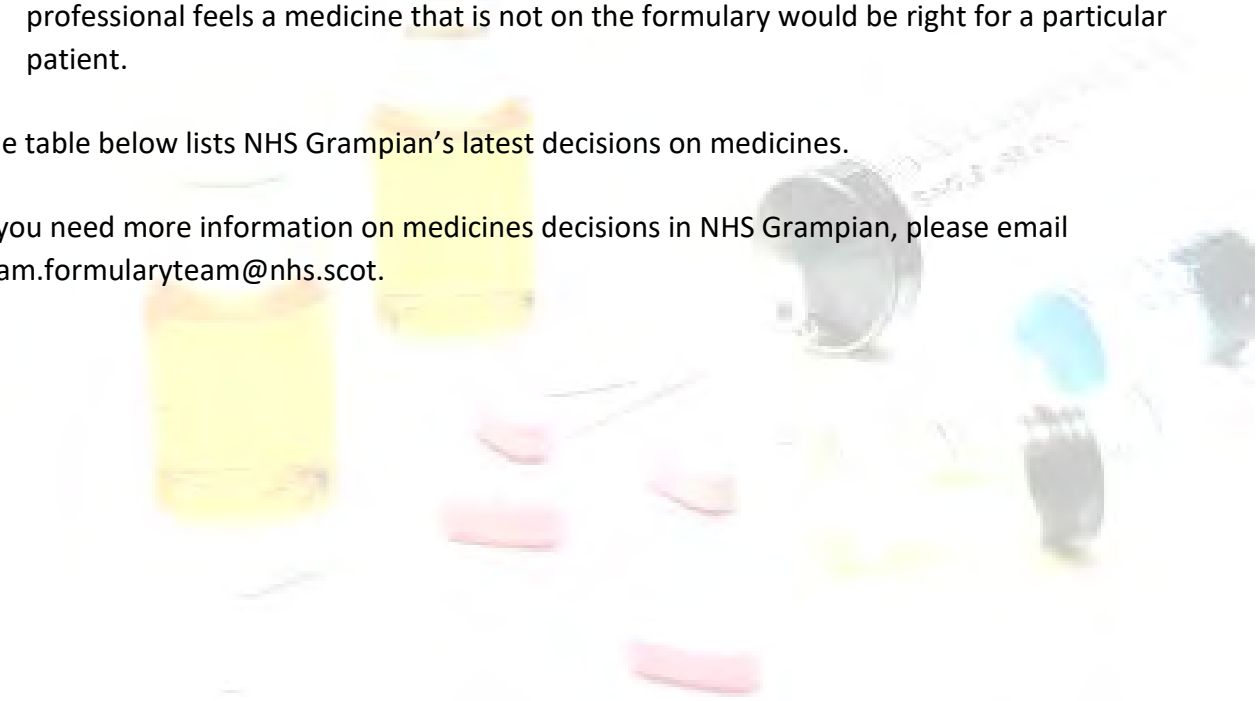
- This is usually because the medicine is not recommended for use in NHS Scotland by the SMC.
- The medicine may not be routinely available in a health board, particularly in smaller health boards, because there is not a suitable specialist who may use the medicine.
- There may also be differences as to which medicines are preferred in health boards. Sometimes SMC accepts more than one medicine for treating a specific medical condition. Clinical experts in each health board consider whether to add new medicines to their formulary and advise the ADTC. Sometimes it is agreed that established medicines are a better choice than new medicines.

What happens if a particular medicine is not routinely available in NHS Grampian?

- If a medicine is not routinely available and not included in the Grampian Joint Formulary and there are no suitable alternatives on the formulary, a healthcare professional can request to prescribe a medicine that is not on the formulary if they think you will benefit from using it. All health boards have procedures in place to consider requests when a healthcare professional feels a medicine that is not on the formulary would be right for a particular patient.

The table below lists NHS Grampian's latest decisions on medicines.

If you need more information on medicines decisions in NHS Grampian, please email gram.formularyteam@nhs.scot.



This document is also available in large print and other formats and languages, upon request. Please call NHS Grampian Corporate Communications on (01224) 551116 or (01224) 552245.

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
bezlotoxumab 25mg/mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Zinplava®)	1293/17	Prevention of recurrence of Clostridium difficile infection (CDI) in adults at high risk for recurrence of CDI.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024
bimekizumab 160mg solution for injection in pre-filled syringe, pre-filled pen (Bimzelx®)	2605	Alone or in combination with methotrexate, for the treatment of active psoriatic arthritis in adults who have not responded adequately to two conventional DMARDs.	Routinely available in line with national guidance, SMC 2605 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/7939/bimekizumab-bimzelx-abb-final-oct-2023-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024
bimekizumab 160mg solution for injection in pre-filled syringe, pre-filled pen (Bimzelx®)	2616	For the treatment of adults with: - active non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis with objective signs of inflammation as indicated by elevated C-reactive protein (CRP) and/or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) who have responded inadequately or are intolerant to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) - active ankylosing spondylitis who have responded inadequately or are intolerant to conventional therapy	Routinely available in line with national guidance, SMC 2616 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/7988/bimekizumab-bimzelx-abb-final-nov-2023-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024
cabozantinib 20mg, 40mg, 60mg film-coated tablets (Cabometyx®)	2590	As monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with locally advanced or metastatic differentiated thyroid carcinoma (DTC), refractory or not eligible to radioactive iodine (RAI) who have progressed during or after prior systemic therapy.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2590 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/8107/cabozantinib-cabometyx-final-jan-2024-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024
capsaicin 0.025% cream (Zacin®)		For the symptomatic relief of pain associated with osteoarthritis.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024
capsaicin 0.075% cream (Axsain®)		- for the symptomatic relief of neuralgia associated with and following Herpes Zoster infections (post-herpetic neuralgia) after open skin lesions have healed - for the symptomatic management of painful diabetic peripheral polyneuropathy	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024
clindamycin 1% topical lotion (Dalacin®T)		For the treatment of acne vulgaris.	Not routinely available as there is a local preference for alternative medicines	20/02/2024

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
clindamycin 1% topical solution (Dalacin®T)		For the treatment of acne vulgaris.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024
crizanlizumab 10mg/mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Adakveo®)	2438	For the prevention of recurrent vaso-occlusive crises in sickle cell disease patients aged 16 years and older. It can be given as an add-on therapy to hydroxycarbamide or as monotherapy in patients for whom hydroxycarbamide is inappropriate or inadequate.	The MHRA has recommended that the marketing authorisation of the medicine be revoked., On 10 January 2024 the UK conditional marketing authorisation for crizanlizumab was revoked due to lack of therapeutic efficacy as determined by MHRA	20/02/2024
degarelix 80mg, 120mg injection (Firmagon®)	2625	In adults: - for the treatment of high-risk localised and locally advanced hormone dependent prostate cancer in combination with radiotherapy - as neoadjuvant treatment prior to radiotherapy in patients with high-risk localised or locally advanced hormone dependent prostate cancer	Routinely available in line with national guidance, SMC 2625 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/7991/degarelix-firmagon-abb-final-nov-2023-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024
difelikefalin 50micrograms/mL solution for injection (Kapruvia®)	2623	Treatment of moderate-to-severe pruritus associated with chronic kidney disease in adult patients on haemodialysis. **SMC restriction**: for use in patients with an inadequate response to best supportive care for reducing itch.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	20/02/2024
dupilumab 300mg solution for injection in pre-filled syringe, pre-filled pen (Dupixent®)	2598	For the treatment of adults with moderate-to-severe prurigo nodularis (PN) who are candidates for systemic therapy.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	20/02/2024

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
ethinylestradiol 10micrograms, 50micrograms, 1mg tablets		In adults for: - post menopausal symptoms due to estrogen deficiency - prevention of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women at high risk of future fractures who are intolerant of, or contraindicated for, other medicinal products approved for the prevention of osteoporosis - palliative treatment of prostatic cancer - hormone replacement therapy for failure of ovarian development e.g. in patients with gonadal dysgenesis where initial estrogen therapy is later followed by combined estrogen/progestogen therapy - disorders of menstruation, given in conjunction with a progestogen	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024
exenatide 5micrograms, 10micrograms solution for injection, prefilled pen (Byetta®)		For treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus in combination with: - metformin - sulphonylureas - thiazolidinediones - metformin and a sulphonylurea - metformin and a thiazolidinedione in adults who have not achieved adequate glycaemic control on maximally tolerated doses of these oral therapies. As adjunctive therapy to basal insulin with or without metformin and/or pioglitazone in adults who have not achieved adequate glycaemic control with these medicinal products.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024
isotretinoin 0.05% gel (Isotrex®)		For the treatment of acne vulgaris.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024
Isotrexin® 0.05% / 2% gel (isotretinoin/erythromycin)		For the treatment of acne vulgaris.	This medicine is now withdrawn from use/discontinued	20/02/2024

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
loncastuximab tesirine 10mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion (Zynlonta®)	2609	As monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) and high-grade B-cell lymphoma (HGBL), after two or more lines of systemic therapy. **SMC restriction**: where chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy is unsuitable, not tolerated or ineffective.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	20/02/2024
mobocertinib 40mg hard capsules (Exkivity®)	2516	As monotherapy for the treatment of adult patients with epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) exon 20 insertion mutation-positive locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), who have received prior platinum-based chemotherapy.	The MHRA has recommended that the marketing authorisation of the medicine be revoked., The official withdrawal of the conditional marketing authorisation will occur on 8th March 2024.	20/02/2024
patiromer sorbitex calcium 8.4g, 16.8g powder for oral suspension (Veltassa®)	2381	For the treatment of hyperkalaemia in adults. **SMC restriction:** patients with hyperkalaemia (defined as a serum potassium of >6.0mmol/L) with chronic kidney disease (CKD) stage 3b to 5 and/or heart failure, who would otherwise need to down-titrate or discontinue their renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitor (RAASi) therapy to maintain a clinically acceptable serum potassium level (normokalaemia).	Not routinely available as there is a local preference for alternative medicines	20/02/2024
patiromer sorbitex calcium 8.4g, 16.8g powder for oral suspension (Veltassa®)	2568	Treatment of hyperkalaemia in adults. **SMC restriction**: in the emergency care setting for the treatment of acute, life-threatening hyperkalaemia alongside standard care.	Not routinely available as there is a local preference for alternative medicines	20/02/2024
pazopanib hydrochloride 200mg, 400mg film-coated tablets (Votrient®)	112	[off-label use] as second line treatment of poor or intermediate risk advanced/metastatic renal cell carcinoma in patients who have received nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab as first line treatment.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, NCMAG 112	20/02/2024

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
ravulizumab 300mg/3mL, 1100mg/11mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Ultomiris®)	2657	As an add-on to standard therapy for the treatment of adult patients with generalized myasthenia gravis (gMG) who are anti-acetylcholine receptor (AChR) antibody-positive.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2657 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/8104/ravulizumab-ultomiris-gmg-non-sub-final-jan-2024-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024
ravulizumab 300mg/3mL, 1100mg/11mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Ultomiris®)	2658	Treatment of adult patients with neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder (NMOSD) who are anti-aquaporin 4 (AQP4) antibody-positive.	Not routinely available as not recommended for use in NHS Scotland, SMC 2658 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/8105/ravulizumab-ultomiris-nmosd-non-sub-final-jan-2024-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024
secukinumab 150mg, 300mg solution for injection in pre-filled pen, pre-filled syringe (Cosentyx®)	2592	For the treatment of active moderate to severe hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) (acne inversa) in adults with an inadequate response to conventional systemic HS therapy. **SMC restriction**: for use in adult patients with active moderate to severe HS for whom adalimumab is contraindicated or otherwise unsuitable, including those who have failed to respond or have lost response to prior adalimumab treatment.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	20/02/2024
sunitinib 12.5mg, 25mg, 37.5mg, 50mg capsules	111	As second line treatment of poor or intermediate risk advanced/metastatic renal cell carcinoma in patients who have received nivolumab in combination with ipilimumab as first line treatment.	Not routinely available as the ADTC is waiting for further advice from local clinical experts	20/02/2024

Name	Unique identifier	Condition being treated	NHS Grampian decision	Date of decision
tezepelumab 210mg solution for injection in pre-filled syringe (Tezspire®)	2541	As an add-on maintenance treatment in adults and adolescents 12 years and older with severe asthma who are inadequately controlled despite high dose inhaled corticosteroids plus another medicinal product for maintenance treatment and have either: (i) experienced at least three exacerbations in the previous year and are not receiving maintenance treatment with oral corticosteroids or (ii) have blood eosinophils ≥150 cells/microlitre and are receiving maintenance treatment with oral corticosteroids	Routinely available in line with national guidance, SMC 2541 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/7758/tezepelumab-tezspire-final-july-2023-amended-020823-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024
trifarotene 50microgram/g cream (Aklief®)	2441	For the cutaneous treatment of acne vulgaris of the face and/or the trunk in patients from 12 years of age and older, when many comedones, papules and pustules are present.	Routinely available in line with national guidance, SMC 2441 https://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/media/7093/trifarotene-aklief-abbreviated-final-jan-2022-amended-130722-for-website.pdf	20/02/2024