

NICE TA 345 – Naloxegol for opioid induced constipation

Recommendation

Naloxegol is recommended, within its marketing authorisation, as an option for treating opioid induced constipation in adults whose constipation has not adequately responded to laxatives. An inadequate response is defined as opioid-induced constipation symptoms of at least moderate severity in at least 1 of the 4 stool symptom domains (that is, incomplete bowel movement, hard stools, straining or false alarms) while taking at least 1 laxative class for at least 4 days during the prior 2 weeks.

It is considered appropriate for GP or specialist initiation. GPs should continue on going prescribing.

- Naloxegol selectively antagonises peripheral opioid receptors to relieve constipation.
- The most commonly reported adverse reactions to Naloxegol are abdominal pain, diarrhoea, nausea, headache and flatulence. The majority of gastrointestinal adverse reactions are graded as mild to moderate, occur early in treatment and resolve with continued treatment.
- The NHS price for Naloxegol, is **£55.20 per 30-tablet** pack of 12.5-mg or 25-mg film-coated tablets. The recommended dose is 25 mg taken orally once daily (or 12.5 mg for people with renal insufficiency).

Approved by: East Kent Prescribing Group (Representing Ashford CCG, Canterbury and Coastal CCG, South Kent Coast CCG and Thanet CCG)

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