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| Renal Directorate Guidelines  **Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh**  **Renal Directorate Guidelines** |

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**Avacopan**

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| **Indication and additional Information** | SMC have approved the use of avacopan if used:   * in combination with a rituximab or cyclophosphamide regimen, for the treatment of adult patients with severe, active granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GPA) or microscopic polyangiitis (MPA) * in the context of an NHS approved patient access scheme (or a list price that is no higher than this)   Our local prescribing will adhere to this. Avacopan will only be prescribed by a Consultant working in the Vasculitis Service. It will be our usual practice to discuss patients receiving avacopan in a Vasculitis MDT within one month of starting therapy. We acknowledge uncertainty around the efficacy and safety of continuing therapy for more than 52 weeks. |
| **Dosage and administration** | 30 mg orally twice daily  We will usually offer Pneumocystis prophylaxis with co-trimoxazole. |
| **Contraindications** | Initiation should be avoided if:   * total WCC < 3.5 × 109/L * neutrophils < 1.5 × 109/L * lymphocytes < 0.5 × 109/L * liver disease   Contra-indicated in pregnancy and breastfeeding.  Caution if history of blood-borne viruses or TB. |
| **Monitoring** | We will obtain FBC and LFTs at baseline and at around weeks 2, 4, 8 and 12 of treatment with reduced frequency thereafter if these parameters are stable. |
| **Side Effects** | Include (see medicines.org.uk for a full list):   * headache, nausea, diarrhoea or vomiting * abnormal LFTs * leucopaenia * shortness of breath * susceptibility to infection |
| **Patient Counselling** | As per our local Patient Information sheet.  [edren.org/ren/handbook/prescribing-handbook/patient-information-leaflets/](https://edren.org/ren/handbook/prescribing-handbook/patient-information-leaflets/) |

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| **Drug Interactions** | Include (see medicines.org.uk for a full list):   * antivirals * antifungals * carbemazepine * clarithromycin * phenytoin * St. John’s Wort |
| **Homecare scheme** | The responsible Consultant will provide prescriptions for the first 12 weeks of therapy; thereafter we will usually switch to the renal homecare scheme. The Consultant retains responsibility for prescribing, arranging and reviewing monitoring blood tests for the duration of therapy. |