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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 dailyWe 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
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| **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
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| **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.  |