

Re: Sacubitril/Valsartan (Entresto®) film coated tablets

15th November 2017

Dear Colleagues,

The HSE has approved reimbursement for sacubitril/valsartan (Entresto®) 24mg/26mg, 49mg/51mg and 97mg/103mg film-coated tablets under the community drug schemes from 1st December 2017.

Sacubitril/valsartan (Entresto®) is the first in a new class of medicine known as Angiotensin Receptor Neprilysin Inhibitor (ARNI) and is a combination of a neprilysin inhibitor and an angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB). It is indicated in adult patients for treatment of symptomatic chronic heart failure with reduced ejection fraction.

Due to the significant budget impact associated with this medicine, the HSE is introducing a reimbursement application system through the Primary Care Reimbursement service (PCRS) to ensure appropriate **symptomatic chronic heart failure patients with reduced ejection fraction (≤35%)** have access to this treatment.

The reimbursement application must be made by the **physician responsible for the initiation of treatment** due to the mandatory information required for reimbursement to be approved. Physicians should ensure that patients are registered and have received approval for reimbursement support prior to issuing a prescription for sacubitril/valsartan (Entresto®).

Physicians in the Acute setting (hospitals and out-patient departments) must be **User Registered with the PCRS** in order to access the online system. A PDF of the 'PCRS Special Drug Request- User Registration Form' is attached.

Completed and signed forms should be scanned, attached and emailed to the PCRS at cert.info@hse.ie for access to be authorised. Forms will not be accepted by fax. Further copies of the User Registration Form are available by contacting the email above and are also available to download from www.pcrs.ie under Online Services ('Services for Hospitals').

To ensure that patients can be approved for reimbursement in a timely fashion please ensure that physicians who intend to prescribe this medication have registered with the PCRS prior to 1st December 2017 as outlined above.

Please note that patients currently accessing the medicines through a compassionate access programme must also be registered through this online process for ongoing reimbursement support from 1st December 2017.

The Medicines Management Programme (MMP) has prepared "Tips and Tools" (attached) to support the appropriate prescribing and monitoring of patients on sacubitril/valsartan (Entresto®).

With best wishes,



Professor Michael Barry
National Clinical Lead, Medicines Management Programme
www.hse.ie/yourmedicines