



PAN MERSEY AREA PRESCRIBING COMMITTEE
PRESCRIBING POLICY STATEMENT
REF: PS162 FINAL
APC BOARD DATE: 02 NOV 2016



Pan Mersey
Area Prescribing Committee

SECUKINUMAB injection (Cosentyx[®] ▼) in ankylosing spondylitis

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The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of SECUKINUMAB injection (Cosentyx[®] ▼) for ankylosing spondylitis in accordance with NICE TA407.

[NICE technology appraisal TA407](#) (September 2016) recommends secukinumab injection (Cosentyx[®] ▼) as an option for treating ankylosing spondylitis (AS) within its marketing authorisation in adults, only where:

- > disease has responded inadequately to conventional therapy (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or TNF-alpha inhibitors)
- > the company provides it with the discount agreed in the patient access scheme

The response to secukinumab should be assessed after 16 weeks of treatment and only continued if there is clear evidence of response, defined as:

- a reduction in the Bath Ankylosing Spondylitis Disease Activity Index (BASDAI) score to 50% of the pre-treatment value or by 2 or more units **AND**
- a reduction in the spinal pain visual analogue scale (VAS) by 2 cm or more.

See [Pan Mersey Ankylosing Spondylitis \(AS\) and Non-Radiographic Axial Spondyloarthritis \(Axial SpA\) pathway](#) and [Pan Mersey Use Of Biological Agents in the Management of Ankylosing Spondylitis and Non-Radiographic Axial Spondyloarthritis prescribing policy statement](#) for additional information

Prescribing and monitoring should be by the rheumatology specialist.

Costing information

The drug is recommended only if the company provides it with the discount agreed in the patient access scheme (commercial in confidence) but it is cost saving compared to other biological therapies before application of the discount. The estimated cost of secukinumab for AS based on patient numbers assumed in the [NICE Resource Impact Report](#) is £13,160 per 100,000 population in 2016/17 rising to £103,100 per 100,000 population in 2020/21, although actual costs will be less than this after application of the patient access scheme discount. As secukinumab is an alternative choice of biological agent in these circumstances, these costs will be instead of costs otherwise incurred for alternative agents. Secukinumab is administered by subcutaneous injection and therefore administration costs will not apply.

References

[NICE TA407 \(Sept 2016\)](#). Secukinumab for active ankylosing spondylitis after treatment with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or TNF-alpha inhibitors.

Note: Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this statement may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy. In this situation, follow locally defined processes.