

Pirfenidone for treating idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis

Information for the public

Published: 6 February 2018

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Pirfenidone (Esbriet) is available on the NHS as a possible treatment for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis in adults, if:

- their forced vital capacity (FVC; a test of lung function) is between 50% and 80% of the value expected for them
- treatment is stopped if the disease gets worse (that is, if their FVC falls by a total of 10% or more in 12 months).

If you are not eligible for pirfenidone but are already taking it, you should be able to continue until you and your doctor decide when best to stop.

Is this treatment right for me?

Your healthcare professionals should give you clear information, talk with you about your options and listen carefully to your views and concerns. Your family can be involved too, if you wish. Read more about [making decisions about your care](#).

Questions to think about

- How well does it work compared with other treatments?
- What are the risks or side effects? How likely are they?
- How will the treatment affect my day-to-day life?
- What happens if the treatment does not work?
- What happens if I do not want to have treatment? Are there other treatments available?

Information and support

[NHS Choices](#) may be a good place to find out more.

These organisations can give you advice and support:

- [British Lung Foundation](#), 03000 030 555
- [Pulmonary Fibrosis Trust](#), 01543 442 191
- [Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis](#), 01543 442 152

You can also get support from your local [Healthwatch](#).

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ISBN: 978-1-4731-2591-9