

# Mepolizumab for treating severe eosinophilic asthma

Information for the public

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[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

Mepolizumab (Nucala) is available on the NHS. It is a possible additional treatment for severe refractory eosinophilic asthma in adults if:

- blood eosinophil levels reached 300 cells per microlitre or more, and systemic corticosteroids were needed at least 4 times in the past 12 months or continuous oral corticosteroids have been taken for the past 6 months or
- blood eosinophil levels reached 400 cells per microlitre or more, and systemic corticosteroids were needed at least 3 times in the past 12 months.

Mepolizumab can only be used for longer than 12 months if it is working well.

If you are not eligible for mepolizumab 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

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

These organisations can give you advice and support:

- [Asthma UK](#), 0300 222 5800
- [British Lung Foundation](#), 03000 030 555

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

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