

Secukinumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in children and young people

Information for the public

Published: 7 October 2021

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Secukinumab (Cosentyx) is available on the NHS as a possible treatment for moderate to severe plaque psoriasis for children and young people aged 6 to 17 years. It is available if the psoriasis has not improved with other treatments, for example, ciclosporin, methotrexate or phototherapy, or these cannot be taken.

Treatment with secukinumab should be stopped after 12 weeks if the psoriasis does not improve enough.

If you are not eligible for secukinumab but are already taking it, you should be able to continue until you and your doctor, with your parents or carers, 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:

- [Psoriasis Association](#), 01604 251 620
- [Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis Alliance](#), 01923 672837

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

NICE is not responsible for the quality or accuracy of any information or advice provided by these organisations.

ISBN: 978-1-4731-4287-9