

**South East London Integrated Medicines Optimisation Committee
Formulary recommendation**

Reference	050
Intervention:	Brivaracetam film coated tablets (all strengths) and 10mg/ml oral solution for the adjunctive treatment seizures in adults, children & young people with epilepsy (Brivaracetam is a medicine for treating epilepsy – it is an analogue of levetiracetam)
Date of Decision	June 2016, updated February 2025 following a review of the formulary arrangements
Date of Issue:	July 2016, re-issued March 2025
Recommendation:	Amber 2 – Specialist initiation (epilepsy or paediatric neurology specialist) and prescription supply from the specialist team
Further Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brivaracetam is accepted for use within South East London in line with NICE guideline NG217 - Epilepsies in children (aged 2 years and above), young people and adults as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an adjunctive second line add on treatment for the management of tonic clonic seizures or focal seizures ○ monotherapy or add on treatment if first line treatment is unsuccessful for the management of myoclonic seizures • The use of brivaracetam is off-label* for the management of tonic clonic seizures and myoclonic seizures The off-label nature should be explained to the patient/carer/guardian and informed consent gained. • Brivaracetam should not be used concomitantly with levetiracetam as available evidence suggests there is no additional benefit from use of this combination. • Brivaracetam will be initiated by an epilepsy or paediatric neurology specialist in a tertiary care setting in line with NICE guideline NG217 • Treatment with brivaracetam should be stopped in patients who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fail to achieve a significant reduction in seizure frequency (defined as a 50% or more reduction despite optimum doses of the drug) ○ Fail to achieve a significant reduction in seizure severity despite optimum doses of the drug ○ Experience a combination of side effects significant enough to warrant discontinuation ○ Have a combination of the above factors • The hospital will prescribe and provide a supply of brivaracetam after which the GP may be requested to take over prescribing. • March 2025: This formulary recommendation was updated following requests to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) update the formulary arrangements for brivaracetam to include children aged 2 years and upwards and (ii) remove the requirement for an initial 6-month supply to be provided by the the specialist team before transfer to primary care. <p>*Brivaracetam is licensed as adjunctive therapy of focal seizures with or without secondary generalisation</p>
Shared Care/ Transfer of care required:	N/A
Cost Impact for agreed patient group	March 2025 – updated cost impact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local experts estimate that ~80 adults will be eligible for treatment with brivaracetam in SEL for the management of tonic clonic, focal or myoclonic seizures in line with NICE guideline NG217 • Based on the current cost of brivaracetam, this equates to ~£1,556 per person per annum • Assuming 80 patients are treated with brivaracetam in this setting, this

	<p>equates to ~£124,480 (~£6,224 per 100,000 population) per annum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inclusion of children aged 2 years and over is not expected to have a significant cost impact. • In some cases, the cost will be a substitution/part-substitution for other anti-epilepsy medicines.
Usage Monitoring & Impact Assessment	Acute Trusts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and audit usage and outcomes from the use of brivaracetam in this setting (against this recommendation) and report back to the Committee if requested.
	SEL Borough Medicines Teams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor ePACT2 data and exception reports from GPs if inappropriate prescribing requests are made to primary care.
Evidence reviewed	References (from evidence evaluation) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NICE guideline NG21. Epilepsies in children, young people and adults. Published 24 April 2022, last updated 30 January 2025. Available from: https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng217 [Accessed 25th February 2023] 2. Elwes R, Nashef L and Jones, S. South East London Anti-Epileptic Drug Treatment Pathway for Focal Epilepsy. 2014. 3. UCB Pharma Limited. Briviact film-coated tablets. Available from: https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/31452. [Accessed 12th May 2016] 4. Cochrane Library. Qin Z. et al. Brivaracetam add-on therapy for epilepsy. Available from: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD011501/full. [Accessed 12th May 2016] 5. Biton V et al. Brivaracetam as adjunctive treatment for uncontrolled partial epilepsy in adults: a phase III randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. <i>Epilepsia</i>. 2014; 55(1):57–66. 6. Klein P, Schiemann J, Sperling MR, et al. A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter, parallel-group study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of adjunctive brivaracetam 7. Ryvlin P, et al. Adjunctive brivaracetam in adults with uncontrolled focal epilepsy: results from a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial. <i>Epilepsia</i>. 2014;55(1):47–56. 8. UCB Pharma Limited. Briviact 10mg/ml oral solution. Available from: https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/31453. [Accessed 12th May 2016] 9. UCB Pharma Limited. Briviact 10 mg/ml solution for injection/infusion. Available from: https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/medicine/31457. [Accessed 12th May 2016]

NOTES:

- a) SEL IMOC recommendations and minutes are available publicly via the [website](#).
- b) This SEL IMOC recommendation has been made on the cost effectiveness, patient outcome and safety data available at the time. The recommendation will be subject to review if new data becomes available, costs are higher than expected or new NICE guidelines or technology appraisals are issued.
- c) **Not to be used for commercial or marketing purposes. Strictly for use within the NHS**