

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

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| <b>Reference</b>                               | <b>116</b>  |
| <b>Intervention</b>                            | <b>Safinamide for the management of Parkinson's disease in adults</b><br>(Safinamide is monoamine oxidase-B (MAO-B) inhibitor)  |
| <b>Date of Decision</b>                        | <b>February 2020, reviewed September 2021 &amp; recategorised from Red to Amber 2 (time limited), updated June 2024 following report on outcomes data - time limit to the approval removed</b>  |
| <b>Date of Issue</b>                           | <b>March 2020, reissued in October 2021 &amp; July 2024</b>   |
| <b>Recommendation</b>                          | <b>Amber 2 – specialist initiation and prescribing for 3 months. GP may be requested to prescribe after 3 months</b>  |
| <b>Further Information:</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safinamide is accepted for use as a treatment option for Parkinson's disease in adults in line with its licence* and where the following criteria are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Safinamide is a <b>last line</b> oral treatment option for people with Parkinson's disease that is refractory to other oral treatments <b>and</b></li> <li>– The next step in treatment would otherwise be advanced, non-oral treatments. These include: apomorphine, deep brain stimulation or co-careldopa intestinal gel <b>and</b></li> <li>– Previous treatment includes an adequate trial (minimum 3 months) of at least one other MAOB-inhibitor chosen from rasagiline or selegeline (5mg or 10mg tablets) which are already included in the <a href="#">SEL Formulary</a>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>June 2024:</b> In September 2021 the Committee approved the inclusion of safinamide in Parkinson's disease for a time limited period to enable experience of use. A report summarising outcomes with the use of safinamide in this setting was requested by the Committee after 12 months. Presentation of the outcomes report to the Committee was delayed due to COVID-19 and workload pressures. Two-thirds of patients were started on safinamide in line with the formulary recommendation. Feedback was provided to the individual prescriber responsible for initiating safinamide outside of the recommendation. It was also noted that a shortage of rasagiline may have contributed to increased safinamide prescribing outside of the formulary recommendation. Data shows approximately 57% of patients experienced an improvement in Parkinson's symptoms and less medication wearing off periods with safinamide use. A small number of patients initially showed symptom improvement with safinamide but eventually needed advanced treatment. Approximately a third of patients stopped treatment due to either side effects or a lack of efficacy.</li> </ul> <p>*Safinamide 50mg and 100mg tablet (Xadago™) is licensed for the treatment of adult patients with idiopathic Parkinson's disease (PD) as add-on therapy to a stable dose of levodopa (L-dopa) alone or in combination with other PD medicinal products in mid-to late-stage fluctuating patients.</p> |
| <b>Shared Care/ Transfer of care required:</b> | N/A   |

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| <b>Cost Impact for agreed patient group</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on costing in the evidence review (February 2020), the application estimated that approximately 30-55 patients might be appropriate for treatment per annum, and that 50% would be from SE London.</li> <li>This equates to costs of up to between £12,000 to £22,000 per annum vs. rasagiline or selegiline, which are available generically.</li> <li>The application stated that safinamide has a significantly lower cost impact vs. advanced, non-oral therapies, such as levodopa intestinal gel and apomorphine.</li> <li>The outcomes report presented in June 2024 and primary care prescribing data suggest the patient numbers prescribed safinamide are in line with the original estimates based on a year on year cumulative effect. The data would also have been impacted by shortages in rasagiline.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Usage Monitoring &amp; Impact Assessment</b> | <p><b>Acute Trusts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor and audit usage and outcomes from the use of safinamide in this setting (against this recommendation) and report back to the Committee if requested</li> </ul> <p><b>SEL Borough Medicines Optimisation Teams:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor ePACT2 data and exception reports from GPs if inappropriate prescribing requests are made to primary care</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Evidence reviewed</b>                        | <p><b>References (from evidence review)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parkinson's disease in the over 20's: Diagnosis and management. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Clinical Guideline 35 (2006).</li> <li>Parkinson's disease in adults. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence NG71 (2017)</li> <li>Xadago (safinamide). Summary or Product Characteristics. Available online here (accessed 06/09/2019)</li> <li>Xadago - Public Assessment Report. European Medicines Agency 2014.</li> <li>Mueller T, Foley P. Clinical Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of safinamide. Clinical Pharmacokinetics 2017 56 (3) p251-261.</li> <li>Borghain R, Szasz J, Stanzione P et al. Randomized trial of safinamide add-on to levodopa in Parkinson's disease with motor fluctuations. Movement Disorders 2014 29 (2) p229-237</li> <li>Borghain R, Szasz J, Stanzione P et al. Two-Year, randomized, controlled study of safinamide as add-on to levodopa in mid to late PD. Movement Disorders 2014 29 (10) p1273-1280</li> <li>Schapira A, Fox S, Hauser R et al. Assessment of safety and efficacy of safinamide as a levodopa adjunct in patients with Parkinson's disease and motor fluctuations. A randomised clinical trial. JAMA Neurology 2017 74 (2) p165-173.</li> <li>Cattaneo C, Barone P, Bonizzoni E et al. Effects of safinamide on pain in fluctuating Parkinson's disease patients: A post-hoc analysis. Journal of Parkinson's Disease 2017 7 p95-101.</li> <li>Cattaneo C, Mueller T, Bonizzoni E et al. Long-term effects of safinamide on mood fluctuations in Parkinson's disease. Journal of Parkinson's Disease 2017 7 p629-634.</li> <li>Cattaneo C, Sardina M, Bonizzoni E. Safinamide as add-on therapy to levodopa in mid- to late-stage Parkinson's disease fluctuating patients: post hoc analysis of studies 016 and SETTLE. Journal of Parkinson's Disease 2016 6 p165-173.</li> <li>Cattaneo C, La Ferla R, Bonizzoni E et al. Long-term effects of safinamide on dyskinesia in mid- to late-stage Parkinson's disease: A post-hoc analysis. Journal of Parkinson's Disease 2015 5 p475-481.</li> <li>Cattaneo C, Kulisevsky J, Tubazio V et al. Long-term efficacy of safinamide on Parkinson's disease chronic pain. Advanced Therapeutics 2018 35 p515-522.</li> <li>Binde C, Tsvete I, Gasemyr J et al. A multiple treatment comparison meta-analysis of monoamine oxidase type B inhibitors for Parkinson's disease. British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology 2018 84 p1917-1927.</li> <li>Mancini F, Di Fonzo A, Lazzeri G et al. Real life evaluation of safinamide effectiveness in Parkinson's disease. Neurological Sciences 2018 39 p733-739.</li> </ol> |

**NOTES:**

- SEL IMOC recommendations and minutes are available publicly via the [website](#).
- 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.
- Not to be used for commercial or marketing purposes. Strictly for use within the NHS.**