



## NCPE Plain English Summary

**Drug name:** Rimegepant (*pronounced: Rime - gepant*) is a treatment for acute migraine with or without aura and the preventive treatment of episodic migraine in adults who have at least four migraine attacks per month.

**Brand name:** Vydura®

### What is the NCPE?

The National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics (NCPE) is a team of experts who look at the health benefits and costs of medicines. The HSE asks us to advise on whether or not a new medicine is good value for money. We give unbiased advice to help the HSE provide the most effective, safe and cost-effective (value for money) treatments for patients.

### How do we make our recommendations?

Our main focus is on the health benefits and cost effectiveness of a medicine. We look at the wider costs and health benefits associated with a new medicine, for example:

- Does the new medicine work better than other treatments available in Ireland?
- Is the new medicine easier to give or easier to take compared with other treatments available in Ireland?
- Does the new medicine reduce the need for patients to be hospitalised?
- Does the new medicine improve the quality of a patient's life over other treatments available in Ireland?
- Will the new medicine save resources elsewhere within the health system?

We review the information from clinical trials along with the cost and value for money data presented by the pharmaceutical company. We ask doctors and other healthcare professionals for advice about any health benefits of the new medicine compared with current treatments. We also ask patient organisations to send us their views on how the new drug may improve patients' day-to-day experience of living with a disease.

### What is rimegepant used for?

Rimegepant is used to treat acute migraine episodes with or without aura. It is also used to treat episodic migraine (fewer than 15 migraine days per month with or without aura). For acute migraine rimegepant improves pain relief at two hours as compared with placebo. For

episodic migraine rimegepant reduces the number of migraine days per month as compared with placebo. Rimegepant also improves quality of life when used to treat migraine.

### **What recommendation has the NCPE made to the HSE?**

We have recommended that the HSE should consider funding rimegepant for the treatment of acute or episodic migraine if cost-effectiveness (value for money) can be improved when compared with current treatments. The HSE will consider our recommendation and make the final decision about reimbursement (funding). When making the funding decision, the HSE will also consider the additional criteria outlined in the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013.

### **Why did we make this recommendation?**

We have completed a full health technology assessment for this medicine. We recommend that the HSE consider providing this medicine if the HSE can agree a suitable price reduction with the pharmaceutical company. We believe the medicine may work as well or better than other ways to manage this condition. However, the price of the medicine is too high compared with other ways to manage this condition, and we believe that the medicine is not value for money.

### **Next steps**

When the HSE receives our recommendation, it will look at all the relevant data about rimegepant. The HSE makes the final decision on reimbursement.

### **Where can I get more information?**

You can get more information about rimegepant from the following online options:

- the NCPE Technical Summary Document
- Searching for rimegepant on our website ([www.ncpe.ie](http://www.ncpe.ie));
- searching for rimegepant on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website ([www.ema.europa.eu](http://www.ema.europa.eu)).

Please refer to the NCPE website for updated information on the reimbursement status of this medicine.

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