

NCPE Assessment

Plain English Summary

April 2026

Drug name: Relugolix with estradiol and norethisterone acetate (pronounced *reh-loo-GOH-lix* with *eh-struh-dai-owl* and *nor-eth-IS-tur-ohn ass-uh-tayt*) for the symptomatic treatment of endometriosis in women of reproductive age with a history of previous medical or surgical treatment for their endometriosis

Brand name: Ryeqo[®]

HTA ID: 24018

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 relugolix with estradiol and norethisterone acetate used for?

Relugolix with estradiol and norethisterone acetate, herein referred to relugolix combination therapy, is used to treat symptoms of endometriosis in women of reproductive age who have already had prior treatment for the condition. Endometriosis is a condition in which tissues similar to the lining of the womb grow elsewhere in the body. These tissues react to monthly hormones and cause various symptoms such as period pain, pain during intercourse, pelvic pain, heavy menstrual bleeding, and chronic fatigue.

What recommendation has the NCPE made to the HSE?

We have recommended that the HSE should consider not funding relugolix combination therapy unless its cost effectiveness (value for money) can be improved. 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?

After reviewing the data presented by the pharmaceutical company, we concluded that the HSE should consider not providing relugolix combination therapy unless the HSE can agree a suitable price reduction with the pharmaceutical company. This is because we believe the medicine may not work as well as other ways to manage endometriosis and the treatment duration with relugolix may be long-term in comparison to existing treatments. Relugolix combination therapy if used long-term is not a cost-effective treatment compared to other ways to manage this condition, and we believe that the medicine is very poor value for money.

Next steps

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

Where can I get more information?

You can get more information about relugolix combination therapy from the following online options:

- the NCPE Summary Document
- Ryego® European Public Assessment Report (EPAR) – [Medicine Overview](#)
- searching for relugolix with estradiol and norethisterone acetate on our website (www.ncpe.ie)
- searching for relugolix with estradiol and norethisterone acetate on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website (www.ema.europa.eu).

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