

Doctor discussion guide

NUCALA is an add-on, prescription maintenance treatment for patients 12 years and older with severe eosinophilic asthma. NUCALA is not used to treat sudden breathing problems.

Doctor's visit scheduled? Check. Now, it's time to prep. Below are some important questions to ask about your severe asthma and how NUCALA may be able to help.



PRO-TIP: Print out this guide, add your own questions, and bring it along to keep track!

Some key questions to ask

What are eosinophils? Can they affect my severe asthma?

A blood test that measures eosinophils can help show if NUCALA is an option for certain types of asthma. Am I eligible for this blood test?

Is NUCALA an appropriate treatment option for my severe asthma?

How is NUCALA different from my other asthma medications?

Will taking NUCALA change the dose or how often I take my other asthma medications?

What can I expect when I start taking NUCALA?

Anything else? Jot it down here:

Important Safety Information

Do not use NUCALA if you are allergic to mepolizumab or any of the ingredients in NUCALA. Do not use to treat sudden breathing problems.

NUCALA can cause serious side effects, including:

- **allergic (hypersensitivity) reactions, including anaphylaxis.** Serious allergic reactions can happen after you get your NUCALA injection. Allergic reactions can sometimes happen hours or days after you get a dose of NUCALA. Tell your healthcare provider or get emergency help right away if you have any of the following symptoms of an allergic reaction:
 - swelling of your face, lips, and tongue
 - breathing problems
 - drop in blood pressure (fainting, dizziness, feeling lightheaded)
 - rash
 - hives
- **Herpes zoster infections** that can cause shingles have happened in people who received NUCALA

Before receiving NUCALA, tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions, including if you:

- are taking oral or inhaled corticosteroid medicines. Do not stop taking your other asthma medicines, including your corticosteroid medicines, unless instructed by your healthcare provider because this may cause other symptoms to come back
- have a parasitic (helminth) infection.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if NUCALA may harm your unborn baby
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will use NUCALA and breastfeed. You should not do both without talking with your healthcare provider first
- are taking prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements

The most common side effects of NUCALA include: headache, injection site reactions (pain, redness, swelling, itching, or a burning feeling at the injection site), back pain, and tiredness (fatigue).

Please see Consumer Medicine Information for NUCALA available at www.medsafe.govt.nz You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the Medsafe. Visit www.medsafe.govt.nz, or call 0800 808 500.

Nucala (mepolizumab 100 mg) is a **Prescription Medicine**, available as a 100 mg powder for injection (100 mg/mL after reconstitution) and as a 100 mg/mL pre-filled pen (auto-injector). *Nucala* is used as an add-on treatment for; severe eosinophilic asthma in patients 12 years and over, severe chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (CRSwNP) with an inadequate response to intranasal corticosteroids in adult patients 18 years and older, relapsing or refractory Eosinophilic Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis (EGPA) in adult patients aged 18 years and over, and in adult patients with inadequately controlled hypereosinophilic syndrome (HES) without an identifiable non-haematologic secondary cause. *Nucala* is given by injection under your skin (subcutaneous). *Nucala* is fully funded for severe eosinophilic asthma only; Special Authority criteria apply. Use strictly as directed. *Nucala* has risks and benefits. Do not stop taking your other asthma medications including inhaled and /or oral steroid asthma medications. Tell your doctor if: you have a parasitic (helminth) infection; you are taking prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements; you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant; you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. *Nucala* does not treat acute asthma symptoms, such as sudden asthma attack. Tell your healthcare professional or get emergency help immediately if you have any of the following symptoms of an allergic reaction: swelling of your face, mouth, and tongue, breathing problems, fainting, dizziness, feeling light-headed (low blood pressure), rash or hives. Side effects: headache, injection site reactions (pain, redness, swelling, itching, or a burning feeling at the injection site), back pain, and fatigue. Serious side effects may include allergic (hypersensitivity) reactions, including anaphylaxis. Serious allergic reactions can happen after you get your injection of *Nucala*. Allergic reactions can sometimes happen hours or days after you get a dose of *Nucala*. Herpes zoster infections that can cause shingles have happened in people who received *Nucala*. If symptoms continue or you have side effects, see your doctor, pharmacist or health care professional. For more information, see *Nucala* Consumer Medicine Information at www.medsafe.govt.nz. Ask your doctor if *Nucala* is right for you. Normal doctor's charges apply.

Adverse events involving GlaxoSmithKline products should be reported to GSK Medical Information on 0800 808 500.

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Nucala  ²
(mepolizumab)