



CGRP monoclonal antibody treatment: Request for reimbursement in the Middle East

Availability and reimbursement of anti-CGRP therapies vary across the Middle East, depending on national healthcare coverage, regulatory mechanisms and pricing and insurance policies.

Engaging with insurers and government

Experience has shown the importance of engaging with insurers and government regulators to demonstrate the potential benefits of anti-CGRP therapies not only for patients but also for employers and national economies.

There is published evidence that anti-CGRP therapies:

- Reduce monthly migraine days in patients with episodic and chronic migraine¹⁻⁹
- Improve quality of life for patients¹⁰⁻¹⁴
- Reduce migraine-related disability¹⁰⁻¹⁴
- Reduce indirect costs and sick leave^{15,16}

Personalised patient care

When interacting with payers over reimbursement for anti-CGRP therapies for individual patients, a detailed medical report documenting the need for treatment is likely to include:

- The patient's history of migraine including duration of disease and frequency and severity of attacks
 - A headache diary recording migraine attack frequency and severity may be useful
- The impact of the patient's migraine on their personal and working life and the lives of family members and carers

- Need for medical care, eg. consultations, Emergency Room or inpatient, in recent months or years
- Detailed description of previous migraine treatment failures including drug names, doses and duration of treatment
- Likely duration of anti-CGRP therapy (3-6 months then reassess), ie. treatment is not open ended

Following initial treatment, it is important to demonstrate the benefits and possible cost advantages to payers in order to agree further reimbursement. These are likely to include:

- Effects of anti-CGRP therapy on number of migraine days (preventive treatment) and migraine symptoms (acute treatment)
 - Comparison with previous treatments
- Impact of treatment on patient's quality of life since starting anti-CGRP therapy
- Effects on family and social life since starting anti-CGRP therapy
- Need for medical care, eg. consultations, Emergency Room or inpatient, since starting treatment
- Time off work, school or college since starting anti-CGRP therapy

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