

Information about changes to medicines or treatments on the NHS: Changes to aliskiren prescribing

The NHS will be asking doctors to stop or greatly reduce the prescribing of some treatments. This is because the treatments are:

- Not as safe as other treatments OR
- Not as good (effective) as other treatments OR
- More expensive than other treatments that do the same thing.

This includes aliskiren.

This document will explain why the changes are happening and where you can get more information and support.

What is aliskiren?

Aliskiren (also called Rasilez) is used for the management of high blood pressure.

Why will aliskiren not be prescribed anymore?

There isn't currently enough evidence to prove that it is as good as other treatments and it is a lot more expensive than other medication options for high blood pressure. It is also associated with some serious side effects that can cause damage to the heart and kidneys in certain people.

What options are available instead of aliskiren?

There are other alternative blood pressure medicines that are considered safer and more effective.

Your doctor will talk to you about different options so that you can come to a joint decision about what option is best for you.

Where can I find more information and support?

- You can speak to your local pharmacist, GP or the person who prescribed the medication to you.
- Your local patient group
- The Patients Association can also offer support and advice: www.patients-association.org.uk/ or call 020 8423 8999

Find out more about the medicines that are being stopped or reduced:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/medicines/items-which-should-not-be-routinely-prescribed/>

If you have any questions about aliskiren prescribing please email them to: england.medicines@nhs.net