
Stop taking your SGLT2 inhibitor in these circumstances:

- ❖ If you are unable to eat or drink e.g. nausea, vomiting or if you have diarrhoea.
- ❖ At least three days before fasting for surgery or a procedure.
- ❖ If you are unwell with an infection or an illness.
- ❖ If you are on a very low carbohydrate diet.

Always inform healthcare professionals that you are taking this medicine.



SGLT2 inhibitors available in UK

Dapagliflozin

Forxiga (Dapagliflozin)
Xigduo (Dapagliflozin/Metformin)
Qtern (Dapagliflozin/Saxagliptin)

Empagliflozin

Jardiance (Empagliflozin)
Synjardy (Empagliflozin/Metformin)
Glyxambi (Empagliflozin/Linagliptin)

Canagliflozin

Invokana (Canagliflozin)
Vokanamet (Canagliflozin/Metformin)

Ertugliflozin

Steglatro (Ertugliflozin)

[New Hayesbank Surgery](#)

PATIENTS TAKING SGLT-2 INHIBITORS

Information for patients taking Sodium-Glucose Co-transporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors.

This leaflet provides information regarding benefits, possible side effects including DKA and circumstances (including Fournier's Gangrene) in which patients need to seek medical advice.



Who are SGLT2 inhibitors suitable for?

SGLT2 inhibitors are a class of drugs used in the treatment of *Type 2 Diabetes*.

They are also used in people with *Chronic Kidney Disease* (CKD)

Patients with *Heart Failure* are also prescribed SGLT2 inhibitors by their specialist.

What are the *benefits* of SGLT2 inhibitors?

- Improvement in blood glucose
- Weight loss
- Lowering of blood pressure
- Lowering risks of death in people with heart disease



What are the possible side effects of SGLT2 inhibitors?

Very Common (>1/10)

- ❖ An increase in the risk of hypoglycaemia when used in combination with other diabetes medications (Insulin/Sulfonylurea).

Common (<1/10)

- ❖ Developing genital or urinary tract infections.
- ❖ Passing more urine more often.
- ❖ Increased thirst
- ❖ Itching/rash

Rare

- ❖ **Diabetic Ketoacidosis:** (Symptoms: Fast, deep breathing, Fruit-smelling breath, Nausea & vomiting, Stomach pain, Headache, Being very tired, Dry skin & mouth, Blurred vision.)
- ❖ **Necrotising Fasciitis** (1/100,000) (***Fournier's Gangrene***: pain, tenderness, redness or swelling in the genital or perineal area, with fever & tiredness. MHRA have issued an alert regarding Fournier's Gangrene with the use of SGLT2 inhibitors. Although very uncommon, this can be a serious life threatening infection. If you suspect that you may have these symptoms of Fournier's Gangrene please contact your GP immediately. If you are unable to contact your GP, please dial 111 immediately for medical assistance.)

