

**Irbesartan (Aprovel<sup>®</sup>)**

**(No. 38/03)**

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**Sanofi-Synthelabo & Bristol-Myers Squibb**  
**Summary of Recommendation**

9 May 2003

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has completed its assessment of the above product and advises NHS Boards and ADTCs on its use in NHS Scotland. The recommendation is summarised as follows:

**ADVICE**

Recommended for restricted use within NHS Scotland.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Irbesartan, for the treatment of renal disease in patients with hypertension and type 2 diabetes mellitus, is effective, but has not been shown to be any more effective than ACE inhibitors, which are generally less expensive products, and for which there is a strong evidence base in diabetic renal disease and other forms of cardiovascular disease. Therefore, irbesartan should be considered, along with other angiotensin II antagonists licensed for diabetic renal disease, as an alternative in patients unable to tolerate an ACE inhibitor.

Professor David H Lawson  
Chairman