

**HERTFORDSHIRE AND WEST ESSEX AREA PRESCRIBING COMMITTEE (HWE APC)**  
**ICOSAPENT ETHYL WITH STATIN THERAPY FOR REDUCING THE RISK OF CARDIOVASCULAR**  
**EVENTS IN PEOPLE WITH RAISED TRIGLYCERIDES**

**(NICE TA 805)**

**RED - RECOMMENDED FOR RESTRICTED PRESCRIBING BY SPECIALIST ONLY.**  
**NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PRIMARY CARE PRESCRIBING.**

| <b>Name: generic (trade)</b>         | <b>What it is</b>  | <b>Indication</b>   | <b>Date decision last revised</b> | <b>Decision status</b> | <b>NICE / SMC Guidance</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Icosapent ethyl<br><b>(Vazkepa®)</b> | Icosapent ethyl is a stable ethyl ester of the omega-3 fatty acid, eicosapentaenoic acid | Licensed to reduce the risk of cardiovascular events in adult statin-treated patients at high cardiovascular risk with elevated triglycerides | September 2022                    | Interim                | NICE TA 805 - recommended  |

**HWE APC recommendation:**

Icosapent ethyl is recommended as an option for reducing the risk of cardiovascular events in adults if they have a high risk of cardiovascular events and raised fasting triglycerides (1.7 mmol/litre or above) and are taking statins, in adults in line with the recommendations in [TA805](#).

**RED STATUS\*:**

- **NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PRIMARY CARE PRESCRIBING.**
- **RECOMMENDED FOR RESTRICTED PRESCRIBING BY SPECIALISTS**

*\* Prescribing RAG recommendation to be reviewed at a future HWE APC meeting and pending experience in use from specialists. Side effect profile includes, but not limited to, increased incidence of AF, pulmonary oedema and bleeding related events.*

**NICE TA 805 recommendations:**

Icosapent ethyl is recommended as an option for reducing the risk of cardiovascular events in adults. It is recommended if they have a high risk of cardiovascular events and raised fasting triglycerides (1.7 mmol/litre or above) and are taking statins, but only if they have:

- established cardiovascular disease (secondary prevention), defined as a history of any of the following:
- acute coronary syndrome (such as myocardial infarction or unstable angina needing hospitalisation)
- coronary or other arterial revascularisation procedures
- coronary heart disease
- ischaemic stroke
- peripheral arterial disease, and

AND low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) levels above 1.04 mmol/litre and below or equal to 2.60 mmol/litre.