

First treatment for endometriosis* in 9 years in New Zealand is now registered¹⁻³

- Ryeqo[®] 40/1/0.5 (relugolix, estradiol, norethisterone acetate) film-coated tablets is registered in New Zealand and was Gazetted on July 10, 2025, for the treatment of endometriosis.^{1,2*}
- An estimated 1 in 10 New Zealand women[†] live with endometriosis,⁴ they can experience debilitating pain and other symptoms which hold them back in many aspects of life, including career and family planning.^{5,6}
- There is no cure for endometriosis,⁶ and women suffer in silence for too long, often waiting 8-10 years for a diagnosis.^{7,8}
- As the first new treatment available in 9 years,^{2,3} the Ryeqo registration is a step in the right direction for providing more options and support for the endometriosis patient community.

New Zealand, 9th October 2025 – Gedeon Richter Australia has announced today that Ryeqo[®] 40/1/0.5 (relugolix, estradiol, norethisterone acetate) has been registered for the treatment of endometriosis symptoms, including endometriosis pain, for adult women of reproductive age who have previously tried medical or surgical treatment for their endometriosis.¹

Ryeqo is an oral treatment which contains the combination of a GnRH (gonadotropin-releasing hormone) receptor antagonist, relugolix, and a hormone add-back therapy, estradiol and norethisterone acetate, in a single, once-daily tablet.¹ The main component, Relugolix works by reducing the hormone estrogen that drives endometriosis symptoms including pain, whilst the estradiol and norethisterone acetate add-back therapy components help to maintain hormonal balance.^{1,9} Eligible New Zealand women[†] can access Ryeqo via private prescription.⁹

Endometriosis is a progressive, painful disease where uterine-like tissue grows outside the uterus, often affecting reproductive organs and other parts of the body.^{4,6} It can cause chronic pain that may include period pain, pain between periods, during or after sex, and when using the toilet.^{4,6} Symptoms vary and can significantly impact all aspects of women's lives.¹⁰

Women with endometriosis face long delays to diagnosis, often waiting up to 8-10 years,^{7,9} and have limited treatment options available to them, including invasive surgery which is the most common way to identify and remove endometriosis from the body.¹¹

“New Zealanders living with endometriosis have long faced a limited range of treatment options. To provide truly effective care, we must ensure equitable access to the full spectrum of evidence-based therapies. The availability of new treatment options is really positive for the more than 120,000 New Zealand women, girls and those assigned female at birth navigating this condition.” says Endometriosis New Zealand Chief Executive, Tanya Cooke.

“The first new treatment for endometriosis in 9 years is welcomed as another option and is an important step forward for the New Zealand endometriosis community who have been suffering unnecessarily and in silence for far too long,” says Professor Neil Johnson, gynaecologist from Auckland Gynaecology Group, past president of the World Endometriosis Society.

“Endometriosis and associated pelvic pain are frequently complex, and we continue to see unacceptable and significant negative impacts on the daily lives of those living with the condition – including physical activity, education, relationships, fertility, employment and mental wellbeing,” says Dr Michael Wynn-Williams, MBChB (Otago), FRANZCOG, Gynaecologist, Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain Specialist.

“Because the endometriosis presents differently in each person, managing symptoms can be challenging and often requires interdisciplinary care. Improving access to a broader range of treatment options is vitally important to support those living with endometriosis, wherever they live in New Zealand,” he continues.

Endometriosis was included in Aotearoa’s first Women’s Health Strategy in 2023, however experts and patient group representatives are calling for the condition to become a greater priority within the New Zealand Health System and for the establishment of a National Endometriosis Action Plan.^{12,13}

“Many New Zealanders living with endometriosis continue to live in pain every day while waiting many months or even years to see a specialist and access the treatment they need. It’s important that we work towards a more coordinated and national approach to help address underlying health system issues such as underfunding, outdated clinical pathways and the gender pain gap,” says Dr Michael Wynn-Williams.

“At Gedeon Richter, we are committed to providing long-term, real solutions for women’s health, including for those living with and affected by endometriosis. Ryeqo has received a speedy review and registration in New Zealand which we really appreciate. We are now able to support more women living with the substantial burden of endometriosis. Next, we look forward to working with relevant local organisations and authorities to work towards broader access to Ryeqo,” said Glen Pearce, General Manager, Gedeon Richter Australia.

Ryeqo was approved for the treatment of endometriosis symptoms in adult women of reproductive age in July 2025.¹ It was initially approved in October 2023 for the treatment of moderate-to-severe symptoms of uterine fibroids in adult women of reproductive age.¹ Ryeqo is not currently funded on the Pharmaceutical Schedule – patients will need to pay the medicine and any healthcare professional fees.

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Footnotes

*RYEQO® 40/1/0.5 (relugolix, estradiol, norethisterone acetate) is registered for adult women of reproductive age for the symptomatic treatment of endometriosis in women with a history of previous medical or surgical treatment for their endometriosis (from July 2025), and for the treatment of moderate to severe symptoms of uterine fibroids (from October 2023).¹

†Endometriosis can also occur in men, transgender men and non-binary persons who were assigned female at birth/presumed female at birth (AFAB/PFAB).

Important information about Ryeqo

RYEQO® 40/1/0.5 is available as a daily tablet and is sponsored by Pharmacy Retailing (NZ) Ltd t/a Healthcare Logistics and marketed by Gedeon Richter.

Ryeqo is available as oral tablets in a fixed daily dose. Special prescribing restrictions apply. **Your doctor will determine if Ryeqo is right for you. Use strictly as directed. If symptoms continue, or you have side effects, see your doctor, pharmacist or healthcare professional.**

Ryeqo is not listed on the Pharmaceutical Schedule. Patients who receive a prescription will need to pay the full cost of this medicine. Ryeqo is available in a bottle of 28 pills (one tablet taken daily), patients will need to pay for the medicine and any healthcare professional fees that apply.

Ryeqo, like all medicines, may cause side effects. The most common side effects are headaches, hot flushes, excessive, irregular, or prolonged bleeding from the womb (uterine bleeding), hair loss, decreased interest in sex, irritability, increased sweating, a lump in the breast tissue (breast cyst), indigestion, night sweats, back pain, joint pain, genital area dryness. Serious side effects include uterine myoma expulsion.¹

Because this product is new, it is subject to additional monitoring. Please report side effects to your doctor, or via <https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/safety/ADR-reporting.asp>.

Ryeqo has risks and benefits.¹

If you have any questions about using Ryeqo, including its risks and benefits, how much to use, how and when to use it, or storage conditions, ask your healthcare professional and refer to the Consumer Medicine Information (CMI) available from Medsafe at <https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/consumers/cmi/r/Ryeqo.pdf> or free phone 0800 900 030.

About endometriosis pain

Endometriosis pain (endo pain) is different from period pain because it occurs due to the inflammation caused when tissue similar to the lining of the uterus (endometrial tissue) grows outside of the uterus.¹⁴

While it is unique for everyone, there are some typical features including chronic pelvic pain (CPP), period pain (dysmenorrhea), back pain and lower abdominal pain.¹⁵ At worst, endo pain is extreme and can occur at any time of the month and anywhere in the body; importantly, it is not always associated with menstruation or ovulation and can be unpredictable in its severity, timing and duration.^{4,6}

Endo pain is invisible and is often dismissed or 'played down' by healthcare professionals, employers, family members and others. As with any type of pain, 'endo pain' is a subjective experience, making it harder for patients to talk about and for healthcare professionals to assess.^{4,6}

Endo pain to a greater or lesser extent affects every facet of a person's life, including their ability to work, undertake education, maintain friendships, have children, have intimate relationships and participate in leisure activities and exercise.^{10,16}

About Gedeon Richter

Recognised for its contribution to women's health, original research and biotechnology, Gedeon Richter is headquartered in Hungary and has over 120 years global experience in healthcare. In New Zealand, Gedeon Richter offers solutions that provide real health support for women and those assigned female at birth.

Gedeon Richter offer a growing portfolio of treatments for fertility and gynaecological conditions, including endometriosis. Research efforts are focused on developing non-invasive medical treatments for common gynaecological conditions which are currently under-treated and can have a severe impact on the patient's quality of life.

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Disclosures

In relation to this Gedeon Richter Australia media announcement, no honoraria were provided to Dr Michael Wynn-Williams, Professor Neil Johnson or Tanya Cooke.

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