



Issue 14, May 2020

# NICE@UHMB Newsletter

## NICE News

### Improved deal means new treatment for a type of advanced breast cancer can be recommended by NICE.

Draft guidance published today (22 May 2020) by NICE recommends atezolizumab for treating people with a type of breast cancer, called triple negative breast cancer, that has spread to other parts of the body. The positive recommendation follows consultation on NICE's previous draft guidance which did not recommend atezolizumab. The company has agreed to provide a larger discount to the list price of the drug following a deal with NHS England & NHS Improvement.

Around 2000 people in England have triple negative breast cancer, of whom around 600 people would be eligible for treatment with atezolizumab and nab-paclitaxel.

Given by injection every 2 weeks with chemotherapy drug nab-paclitaxel, atezolizumab (also called Tecentriq and made by Roche) works by blocking the activity of a protein called PD-L1 which is produced in larger amounts on cancerous cells than normal cells. By blocking PD-L1 it helps the person's own immune cells to attack the cancer.

Atezolizumab is the first immunotherapy that specifically targets triple negative breast cancer where tumours have PD-L1 expression of 1% or more. It is given to people who have not had chemotherapy for breast cancer that has spread to other parts of the body and where surgery to remove it is not possible.

The evidence suggests that atezolizumab plus nab-paclitaxel increases the time before the disease worsens by around 2.5 months. It also suggests that atezolizumab plus nab-paclitaxel can increase overall survival by around 9.5 months.

Meindert Boysen, director of the Centre for Health Technology Evaluation at NICE, said: "We are pleased to have been able to work with the company to resolve the issues identified by the committee in our previous draft guidance. I know that today's announcement will be welcomed by people with this type of breast cancer as well as for their families and carers. Atezolizumab is considered to be a breakthrough treatment in an area where there are currently few options.

"The committee heard that the availability of a new treatment that increases progression-free survival compared with chemotherapy alone will give hope to patients because it is important to them to be able to maintain a good quality life for as long as possible."

Professor Peter Johnson, NHS clinical director for cancer said: "As well as ensuring the safety of cancer patients during the pandemic, the NHS is also working hard to make sure that the best care and treatment options are available for them.

## Frequently asked questions

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## NICE Guidance signed off May 2020

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### Technology Appraisals (TA's)

**BLACK** means NOT RECOMMENDED – do not use

**RED** means RECOMMENDED but can only be prescribed in secondary care. All prescribing stays with the secondary care prescriber

**AMBER** means RECOMMENDED but must be initiated in secondary care. Further prescribing may be in primary care

**GREEN** means RECOMMENDED and can be prescribed in either primary or secondary care.

TA622	Sotagliflozin with insulin for treating type 1 diabetes	Recommended	Green
TA623	Patiromer for treating hyperkalaemia	Recommended	Red
TA624	Peginterferon beta-1a for treating relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis	Recommended	Red
TA597 (updated)	Dapagliflozin with insulin for treating type 1 diabetes (minor amendments)	Recommended	Green
TA625	Recombinant human parathyroid hormone for treating hypoparathyroidism (terminated appraisal)	Not recommended	Black
TA627	Lenalidomide with rituximab for previously treated follicular lymphoma	Recommended	Red

**Reviewed at Medicines Management, Drugs and Therapeutics Sub Committee**

Decisions are captured on the:

Morecambe Bay Joint Medicines Formulary

**University Hospitals Of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust**

**Morecambe Bay Clinical Commissioning Group**

Accessible via the Intranet and the Internet



## NICE Guidance Signed off/Reviewed May 2020

<b>NICE TA623</b>	Patiromer for treating hyperkalaemia
<b>NICE TA622</b>	Sotagliflozin with insulin for treating type 1 diabetes
<b>NICE TA624</b>	Peginterferon beta-1a for treating relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis
<b>NICE QS192</b>	ntrapartum care: existing medical conditions and obstetric complications
<b>NICE NG160</b>	COVID-19 rapid guideline: dialysis service delivery

### Coronavirus (COVID-19)

NICE are supporting the NHS and social care to respond quickly to the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic. NICE have brought together information that may help you available at [NICE.org.uk](https://www.nice.org.uk).



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Morecambe Bay  
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## New/Updated Publications May 2020

NG173	COVID-19 rapid guideline: antibiotics for pneumonia in adults in hospital
NG174	COVID-19 rapid guideline: children and young people who are immunocompromised
NG175	COVID-19 rapid guideline: acute kidney injury in hospital
TA628	Lorlatinib for previously treated ALK-positive advanced non-small-cell lung cancer
TA629	Obinutuzumab with bendamustine for treating follicular lymphoma after rituximab
TA630	Larotrectinib for treating NTRK fusion-positive solid tumours
NG176	COVID-19 rapid guideline: chronic kidney disease
NG177	COVID-19 rapid guideline: interstitial lung disease

## NICE News

### NICE chairman Sharmila Nebhrajani begins her new role

NICE is delighted to announce that today (26 May 2020) Sharmila Nebhrajani, OBE, has taken up her position as its new chairman following her appointment by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and an independent open recruitment process. Sharmila has strong industry, government and charitable experience across a wide range of sectors. A bio-medical scientist by background she read Physiological Sciences at the University of Oxford and began her business career as a management consultant. She was most recently chief executive of Wilton Park, a not-for-profit agency of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office which organises events on key issues including global health and international patient safety. She has also previously held the post of chair of the Human Tissue Authority and currently holds a non-executive role at the Health Foundation.

Other past positions include director of external affairs for the Medical Research Council and chief executive of the Association of Medical Research Charities. She also spent 12 years at the BBC where, as chief operating officer of BBC Future Media and Technology, she oversaw the launch of the BBC iPlayer service.

Sharmila was made an OBE in 2014 for services to medical research.

### NICE recommends treatment for type of small-cell lung cancer.

In new draft guidance, atezolizumab (also called Tecentriq and made by Roche) with carboplatin and etoposide has been recommended as an option for untreated extensive-stage small-cell lung cancer (ES-SCLC).

Around 2400 people in England have ES-SCLC, of whom around 1200 people will be eligible for treatment with atezolizumab with carboplatin and etoposide.

The positive recommendation follows consultation on NICE's previous draft guidance which did not recommend the treatment. The company has since agreed on a new price for atezolizumab with NHS England and Improvement, which means that the treatment is now considered a cost-effective use of NHS resources.