

PRESS RELEASE

NICE recommends natalizumab for the treatment of multiple sclerosis

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) has today issued guidance recommending natalizumab for the treatment of rapidly evolving severe relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis (RES). This guidance is produced as part of its rapid single technology appraisal (STA) work programme.

Andrew Dillon, Executive Lead for the appraisal said: “Having considered the evidence presented on the use of natalizumab for the treatment of multiple sclerosis within its licensed indications, along with responses received during the consultation, the independent advisory committee decided that natalizumab should be an option for the treatment only of rapidly evolving severe relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis. This guidance is good news for people with this particular severe form of multiple sclerosis.”

Ends

Notes to Editors

About the guidance

1. Rapidly evolving severe relapsing–remitting multiple sclerosis (RES) is defined by two or more disabling relapses in 1 year, and one or more gadolinium-enhancing lesions on brain magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or a significant increase in T2 lesion load compared with a previous MRI.

About NICE

2. The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) is the independent organisation responsible for providing national guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention and treatment of ill health.
3. NICE produces guidance in three areas of health:
 - **public health** – guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention of ill health for those working in the NHS, local authorities and the wider public and voluntary sector

- **health technologies** – guidance on the use of new and existing medicines, treatments and procedures within the NHS
- **clinical practice** – guidance on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions within the NHS.