

Dear Christopher,

My comments on the evaluation report of 03/02/09 is as follows,

(1) I congratulate the committee on being the first adopter of the new end-of-life drugs criteria.

(2) Sorafenib should be allowed for second line treatment after interferon. The UK still has a significant cohort of such patients who have only ever been treated with interferon and who deserve treatment with a TKI. This cohort will also rapidly dwindle in number so will not be a recurrent cost in the future. Sorafenib has the best evidence but would be denied under the current guidance. I have seen emails stating that sunitinib will be allowed for patients who have received interferon although I have not seen formal clarification of this and goes against the best available randomised trial evidence which would be for sorafenib.

(3) There will be a small cohort of patients who are truly intolerant of sunitinib, and therefore are likely to be intolerant of sorafenib as well because these belong to the same category of drug, and for these patients there should be the recommendation to use either bevacizumab/interferon or temsirolimus instead as clinically appropriate.

Sincerely,

David Chao