

NICE Health Technology Appraisal - Assessment Report	
TO: NICE	FROM: Healthcare Improvement Scotland

Comments on Assessment Report for Denosumab in the treatment of bone metastases for solid tumours.

1. I am not sure if there has been an assessment made of the cost of ambulance transport for those patients living some distance away from hospital. Savings on transport costs for denosumab given at GP practice rather than hospital appointments for zoledronic acid may shift the balance more in favour of denosumab in those requiring transport for longer journeys.

2. Agree that the balance may change completely with Zoledronic acid coming off patent next year. Is there a threshold cost for this that would shift the balance and if so would it be detailed in the report?

3. Patients being treated in the community rather than in hospital day units which administer chemotherapy will 'free up' chemotherapy slots which may have an impact in waiting times for chemotherapy commencement, potential to reduce number of patients breaching target waiting times in busy units.

Comment provided to Healthcare Improvement Scotland by:

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17 February 2012