

**Quick reference guide**

# Docetaxel for the treatment of hormone-refractory metastatic prostate cancer

## 1 Guidance

- 1.1 Docetaxel is recommended, within its licensed indications, as a treatment option for men with hormone-refractory metastatic prostate cancer only if their Karnofsky performance-status score is 60% or more.
- 1.2 It is recommended that treatment with docetaxel should be stopped:
- at the completion of planned treatment of up to 10 cycles, or
  - if severe adverse events occur, or
  - in the presence of progression of disease as evidenced by clinical or laboratory criteria, or by imaging studies.
- 1.3 Repeat cycles of treatment with docetaxel are not recommended if the disease recurs after completion of the planned course of chemotherapy.

## 2 Implementation

NICE has developed tools to help organisations implement this guidance (listed below). These are available on our website ([www.nice.org.uk/TA101](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA101)).

- Costing report and costing template to estimate the savings and costs associated with implementation.

Suggestions for audit to measure compliance locally can be found in the full guidance (see 'Further information').

## NICE technology appraisal guidance 101

### This guidance is written in the following context

This guidance represents the view of the Institute, which was arrived at after careful consideration of the available evidence. Healthcare professionals are expected to take it fully into account when exercising their clinical judgement. This guidance does not, however, override the individual responsibility of healthcare professionals to make appropriate decisions in the circumstances of the individual patient, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer.

## Further information

### Quick reference guide

This has been distributed to healthcare professionals working in the NHS in England and Wales (see [www.nice.org.uk/TA101distributionlist](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA101distributionlist)). It is available from [www.nice.org.uk/TA101quickrefguide](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA101quickrefguide)

For printed copies, phone the NHS Response Line on 0870 1555 455 (quote reference number N1056).

### Full guidance

This contains the following sections:

- 1 Guidance
- 2 Clinical need and practice
- 3 The technology
- 4 Evidence and interpretation
- 5 Recommendations for further research
- 6 Implications for the NHS
- 7 Implementation and audit
- 8 Related guidance
- 9 Review of guidance.

The full guidance also gives details of the Appraisal Committee, the sources of evidence considered and suggested criteria for audit. It is available from [www.nice.org.uk/TA101guidance](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA101guidance)

## Information for patients and carers

NICE has produced a version of this guidance for people with hormone-refractory metastatic prostate cancer and their carers ('Understanding NICE guidance'), which is available from [www.nice.org.uk/TA101publicinfo](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA101publicinfo)

For printed copies, phone the NHS Response Line on 0870 1555 455 (quote reference number N1057).

### Related guidance

For information about NICE guidance that has been issued or is in development, see the website ([www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)).

- Improving outcomes in urological cancers. *NICE cancer service guidance* (2002). Available from [www.nice.org.uk/CSGUC](http://www.nice.org.uk/CSGUC)

NICE is in the process of developing the following guidance (details available from [www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)).

- Prostate cancer: diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer. *NICE clinical guideline* (publication expected November 2007).
- Atrasentan for hormone-refractory prostate cancer. *NICE technology appraisal* (publication expected January 2008).