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**Bevacizumab for the  
first-line treatment of  
metastatic breast cancer  
(terminated appraisal)**

## **Advice**

**NICE is unable to recommend the use in the NHS of bevacizumab in combination with paclitaxel for the first-line treatment of metastatic breast cancer because no evidence submission was received from the manufacturer or sponsor of the technology.**

## **Background**

The manufacturer of bevacizumab (Roche Products) was invited to submit evidence for this single technology appraisal in August 2007.

The submission made by the manufacturer did not include a full economic analysis that followed the specification for manufacturer or sponsor submissions of evidence for single technology appraisal and NICE's methodological reference case.

In response to a request for clarification from NICE to explain why a complete submission was not provided, the manufacturer stated that it would not be developing and submitting a full cost-effectiveness analysis reference case. The manufacturer informed NICE that calculations showed that the treatment regimen of bevacizumab plus paclitaxel was very unlikely to be regarded as a cost-effective treatment for metastatic breast cancer compared with paclitaxel monotherapy.

NICE has therefore terminated this single technology appraisal.

## **Information**

NHS organisations should take into account the reasons why the manufacturer did not make an evidence submission when considering whether or not to recommend local use of bevacizumab in combination with paclitaxel for the first-line treatment of metastatic breast cancer. If, after doing this, organisations still wish to consider the use of bevacizumab in combination with paclitaxel for the first-line treatment of metastatic breast cancer, they should follow the advice set out in 'Good practice guidance on

managing the introduction of new healthcare interventions and links to NICE technology appraisal guidance' ([www.dh.gov.uk/en/DH\\_064983](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/DH_064983)) which outlines the approach that should be adopted in circumstances where NICE guidance is unavailable.

NICE will review the position at any point if the manufacturer indicates that it wishes to make a full submission.

### ***Related NICE 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)).

#### **Published**

- Gemcitabine for the treatment of metastatic breast cancer. NICE technology appraisal guidance 116 (2007). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/TA116](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA116)
- Guidance on the use of capecitabine for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer. NICE technology appraisal guidance 62 (2003). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/TA062](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA062)
- Guidance on the use of vinorelbine for the treatment of advanced breast cancer. NICE technology appraisal guidance 54 (2002). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/TA054](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA054)
- Guidance on the use of trastuzumab for the treatment of advanced breast cancer. NICE technology appraisal guidance 34 (2002). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/TA034](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA034)
- Improving outcomes in breast cancer. NICE cancer service guidance (2002). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/CSGBC](http://www.nice.org.uk/CSGBC)
- Guidance on the use of taxanes for the treatment of breast cancer. NICE technology appraisal guidance 30 (2001). Available from: [www.nice.org.uk/TA030](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA030)

## **Under development**

- Advanced breast cancer: diagnosis and treatment. NICE clinical guideline (publication date to be confirmed).
- Lapatinib for the treatment of previously treated women with advanced, metastatic or recurrent breast cancer. NICE technology appraisal guidance (publication date to be confirmed).

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