

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

Health Technology Appraisal

Certolizumab pegol for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis

Final scope

Remit/appraisal objective

To appraise the clinical and cost effectiveness of certolizumab pegol within its marketing authorisation for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis.

Background

Plaque psoriasis is an inflammatory skin condition characterised by an accelerated rate of turnover of the upper layer of the skin (epidermis). This leads to an accumulation of skin cells forming raised plaques on the skin. These plaques can be flaky, scaly, itchy and red or a darker colour to the surrounding skin. Plaque psoriasis may affect the scalp, elbows, knees and lower back and sometimes the face, groin, armpits or behind the knees. Although it is a chronic, persistent, severe condition, its course may be unpredictable, with flare-ups and remissions.

Psoriasis is generally graded as mild, moderate or severe and takes into account the location, surface area of skin affected and the impact of the psoriasis on the person. The Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) is an index of disease severity in adults and takes into account the size of the area covered with psoriasis as well as redness, thickness and scaling. In addition, the Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) is a validated tool that can be used to assess the impact of psoriasis on physical, psychological and social wellbeing.

The prevalence of psoriasis in the United Kingdom is estimated to be between 1.3% and 2.2%¹. About 90% of people with the condition have plaque psoriasis and about 20% have moderate to severe disease (15% moderate, 5% severe)² equating to approximately 102,000 to 172,000 adults in England.³

There is no cure for psoriasis but there is a wide range of topical and systemic treatments that can manage the condition. Most treatments reduce the severity of psoriasis flares rather than prevent episodes. Psoriasis has to be treated continually and on a long-term basis. NICE clinical guideline 153 on psoriasis recommends that people with psoriasis should be offered topical therapies such as corticosteroids, vitamin D and vitamin D analogues. For people in whom topical therapy does not alleviate symptoms the guideline recommends phototherapy (broad- or narrow-band ultraviolet B light) and psoralen with ultraviolet A phototherapy (PUVA). The guideline recommends systemic non-biological therapies for people whose psoriasis:

- cannot be controlled with topical therapy **and**
- has a significant impact on physical, psychological or social wellbeing **and**
- one or more of the following apply:
 - psoriasis is extensive **or**
 - psoriasis is localised and associated with significant functional impairment and/or high levels of distress **or**
 - phototherapy has been ineffective, cannot be used or has resulted in rapid relapse.

NICE technology appraisal guidance 103, 146, 180, 350, 419, 442, 475, 511 and 521 recommend etanercept, adalimumab, ustekinumab, secukinumab, apremilast, ixekizumab, dimethyl fumarate, brodalumab and guselkumab, respectively, as treatment options for adults with severe psoriasis (as defined by a total PASI score of 10 or more and a DLQI score of more than 10) whose disease has not responded to, or who are intolerant to or contraindicated to standard systemic therapies such as ciclosporin, methotrexate and PUVA.

Technology appraisal guidance 134 recommends infliximab as a treatment option for adults with very severe psoriasis (as defined by a total PASI score of 20 or more and a DLQI score of more than 18) whose disease has not responded to, or who are intolerant to or contraindicated to standard systemic therapies. Biosimilar products of the biological therapies are available for use in the NHS.

The technology

Certolizumab pegol (Cimzia, UCB Pharma) is an anti-tumour necrosis factor (anti-TNF) drug that reduces inflammation by blocking the action of TNF protein. Certolizumab pegol is administered by subcutaneous injection.

Certolizumab pegol does not currently have a marketing authorisation in the UK for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis. It has been studied in clinical trials compared with placebo or etanercept, in adults with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis.

Intervention(s)	Certolizumab pegol
Population(s)	Adults with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis

<p>Comparators</p>	<p>If systemic non-biological treatment or phototherapy is suitable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systemic non-biological therapies (including methotrexate, ciclosporin and acitretin) • Phototherapy with or without psoralen <p>If conventional systemic non-biological treatment or phototherapy are inadequately effective, not tolerated or contraindicated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TNF-alpha inhibitors (adalimumab, etanercept and infliximab) • IL-17 inhibitors (brodalumab, ixekizumab and secukinumab) • IL-23 inhibitor (guselkumab) • IL-12/IL-23 inhibitor (ustekinumab) • Apremilast • Dimethyl fumarate • Best supportive care
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>The outcome measures to be considered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • severity of psoriasis • psoriasis symptoms on the face, scalp, nails and joints • mortality • response rate • duration of response • relapse rate • adverse effects of treatment • health-related quality of life

<p>Economic analysis</p>	<p>The reference case stipulates that the cost effectiveness of treatments should be expressed in terms of incremental cost per quality-adjusted life year.</p> <p>The reference case stipulates that the time horizon for estimating clinical and cost effectiveness should be sufficiently long to reflect any differences in costs or outcomes between the technologies being compared.</p> <p>Costs will be considered from an NHS and Personal Social Services perspective.</p> <p>The availability of any patient access schemes for the intervention or comparator technologies will be taken into account.</p> <p>For the comparators, the availability and cost of biosimilars should be taken into account.</p>
<p>Other considerations</p>	<p>Where the evidence allows, the following subgroups will be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • previous use of phototherapy and systemic non-biological therapy • previous use of biological therapy • severity of psoriasis (moderate, severe). <p>Where the evidence allows, sequencing of different drugs and the place of certolizumab pegol in such a sequence will be considered.</p> <p>Guidance will only be issued in accordance with the marketing authorisation. Where the wording of the therapeutic indication does not include specific treatment combinations, guidance will be issued only in the context of the evidence that has underpinned the marketing authorisation granted by the regulator.</p>
<p>Related NICE recommendations and NICE Pathways</p>	<p>Related Technology Appraisals</p> <p>‘Guselkumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis’ (2018) NICE technology appraisals guidance 52. Review date: June 2021.</p> <p>‘Brodalumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis’ (2018) NICE Technology Appraisals 511. Review date: March 2021.</p> <p>‘Dimethyl fumarate for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis’ (2017) NICE Technology Appraisal 475. Review date: September 2020.</p> <p>‘Ixekizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis’ (2017) NICE Technology Appraisal 442.</p>

	<p>Review date: April 2020.</p> <p>‘Apremilast for treating moderate to severe psoriasis [rapid review of technology appraisal guidance 368]’ (2016) NICE Technology Appraisal 419. Review date: November 2019.</p> <p>‘Secukinumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis’ (2015) NICE Technology Appraisal 350. Review date: July 2018.</p> <p>‘Ustekinumab for the treatment of adults with moderate to severe psoriasis’ (2009) NICE Technology Appraisal 180. Static list.</p> <p>‘Adalimumab for the treatment of adults with psoriasis’ (2008) NICE Technology Appraisal 146. Static list.</p> <p>‘Infliximab for the treatment of adults with psoriasis’ (2008) NICE Technology Appraisal 134. Static list.</p> <p>‘Etanercept and efalizumab for the treatment of adults with psoriasis’ (2006) NICE Technology Appraisal 103. Static list. Note: guidance for efalizumab has now been withdrawn.</p> <p>Appraisals In Development</p> <p>‘Tildrakizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis’ NICE technology appraisals guidance [ID1060]. Publication date to be confirmed.</p> <p>Related Guidelines</p> <p>‘Psoriasis: assessment and management’ (2012) NICE guideline 153. No new evidence identified in June 2017. Review date to be confirmed.</p> <p>Related Interventional Procedures</p> <p>‘Grenz rays therapy for inflammatory skin conditions’ (2007) NICE interventional procedures guidance 236.</p> <p>Related Quality Standards</p> <p>‘Psoriasis’ (2013) NICE quality standard 40.</p> <p>Related NICE Pathways</p> <p>‘Psoriasis’ (2012) NICE Pathway.</p>
Related National Policy	<p>Department of Health (2016) NHS outcomes framework 2016 to 2017: Domains 1–5.</p> <p>NHS England (2017) Manual for Prescribed Specialised Services 2017/18. Chapter 61: Highly specialist dermatology services.</p>

	NHS England (2013) 2013/14 NHS Standard contract for specialised dermatology services (all ages) .
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References

1. NICE (2017) [Psoriasis: assessment and management](#) Clinical guideline 153.
2. Menter A, Korman NJ, Elmets CA et al. [Guidelines of care for the management of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. Section 6. Guidelines of care for the treatment of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis: case-based presentations and evidence-based conclusions](#). J Am Acad Dermatol 2011; 65:137–74.
3. Office for National Statistics (2017) [Population Estimates for UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland mid-2016](#). Accessed June 2018.