

**PRESS RELEASE**

**NICE issues guidance on pemetrexed (Alimta) for  
the treatment of non-small-cell lung cancer**

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) has today published final guidance on the use of pemetrexed (Alimta) for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer. The guidance does not recommend the use of this drug and means that the appeal by Eli Lilly and Co. against the recommendations contained in the Final Appraisal Determination (FAD) has not been successful.

**Commenting on the guidance, Andrew Dillon, Chief Executive,** said: “The decision of the Appeal Panel means that the recommendations set out in the Final Appraisal Determination will form the Institute’s guidance to the NHS in England and Wales. The independent Appraisal Committee was not persuaded that the evidence presented provided a robust demonstration of the clinical and cost effectiveness of pemetrexed compared with either docetaxel or best supportive care and therefore concluded that the drug is not an effective use of NHS resources.”

The guidance, together with the decision of the Appeal Panel, is available on the NICE website at: [www.nice.org.uk/TA124](http://www.nice.org.uk/TA124) .

**Ends**

**Notes to Editors**

**About NICE**

1. The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) is the independent organisation responsible for providing national guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention and treatment of ill health.
2. NICE produces guidance in three areas of health:
  - **public health** – guidance on the promotion of good health and the prevention of ill health for those working in the NHS, local authorities and the wider public and voluntary sector

- **health technologies** – guidance on the use of new and existing medicines, treatments and procedures within the NHS
- **clinical practice** – guidance on the appropriate treatment and care of people with specific diseases and conditions within the NHS.