



Dr Carole Longson
Director, Centre for Health Technology Evaluation
National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
MidCity Place
71 High Holborn
London
WC1V 6NA

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Dear Dr Longson

Re: Final ACD and Evaluation Report and information on economic model for the appraisal of Lapatinib and trastuzumab - first line (with an aromatase inhibitor)MTA

I write on behalf of the NCRI/RCP/RCR/ACP/JCCO with relation to this Appraisal Consultation Document (ACD) consultation. We are grateful for the opportunity to respond and would like to make the following comments.

- *Has all of the relevant evidence been taken into account?*

Yes, within the scope of the appraisal all relevant evidence has been considered. In particular the three RCT's that are directly relevant to the appraisal have been analysed in detail.

- *Are the summaries of clinical and cost effectiveness reasonable interpretations of the evidence?*

We continue to be concerned regarding the substantial differences in the estimated cost effectiveness of trastuzumab-anastrozole and lapatinib-letrozole arrived at by the Assessment Group. Letrozole and anastrozole have no clinically detectable difference in efficacy and whilst there is only limited data comparing trastuzumab and lapatinib, it seems unlikely that there is a major difference between these drugs. Therefore intuitively the 2 drug-combinations being evaluated seem likely to have similar efficacy but it seems a radically different cost-effectiveness.

- *Are the provisional recommendations sound and a suitable basis for guidance to the NHS?*

Subject to the cost-effectiveness analysis being considered reasonable, then yes.

- *Are there any aspects of the recommendations that need particular consideration to ensure we avoid unlawful discrimination against any group of people on the grounds of gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief?*

No

