

Prostate Cancer Support Federation

the voice of prostate cancer patients and their families

Email: [REDACTED]

16 August 2012

[REDACTED]
Chair, Appeal Committee

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

MidCity Place

71 High Holborn

London WC1V 6NA

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Final Appraisal Determination – Bone Metastases - denosumab Bone Metastases

The Prostate Cancer Support Federation would like to appeal against the Final Appraisal Determination for the above mentioned technology appraisal on the following grounds:

Ground 1: The Institute has failed to act fairly

Advanced prostate cancer is treated by hormone therapy, which causes osteoporosis and in time, skeletal related events. Unlike breast cancer, there is no treatment pathway for bone health, so after four or five years, SRE's inevitably occur. With the advent of new drugs such as Abiraterone, which have the potential to prolong life for quite some time, it is vital that the patient's skeleton is kept in as good a condition as possible and Denosumab is a valuable tool in that direction.

It is concerning that in the first draft of this appraisal, Denosumab was approved for use with hormone refractory advanced prostate cancer and in the final appraisal this had been reversed, but not for breast cancer, which already has a bone health pathway from diagnoses using bisphosphonates.

Registered Charity N°: 1123373
Patrons: Gloria Hunniford, Dr Thomas Stuttaford, OBE

I would like to submit that this is unfair on advanced prostate cancer patients and will condemn them to painful and avoidable fractures.

The Prostate Cancer Support Federation is happy for this to be a written appeal.

Yours sincerely

, Prostate Cancer Support Federation