NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

NICE guidance

Decitabine for the treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia (terminated appraisal)

Technology appraisal guidance
Published: 12 December 2012

www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta270

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Advice

NICE is unable to make a recommendation about the use in the NHS of decitabine for acute myeloid leukaemia because no evidence submission was received from the manufacturer of the technology.

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Background

The manufacturer of decitabine (Janssen) was invited to submit evidence for this single technology appraisal in September 2012.

The manufacturer informed NICE that it had decided not to provide an evidence submission because it could not provide adequate evidence to appraise the technology in accordance with the methods and reference case employed by NICE. The manufacturer stated that the single randomised controlled trial of decitabine in acute myeloid leukaemia did not provide enough data for certain outcomes (for example, low completion rates for patient-reported health outcomes) and that the trial's design (with a mixed treatment comparator) meant there were several potential subgroups with the potential for confounding. The manufacturer also said that it would be challenging to develop an economic model to meet the decision problem because the clinical outcomes would be complicated by subsequent rescue treatments. The manufacturer said that it would therefore not be able to address the clinical and cost effectiveness of decitabine in people with acute myeloid leukaemia.

NICE has therefore terminated this single technology appraisal.

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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 decitabine for the treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia. If, after doing this, organisations still wish to consider decitabine for the treatment of acute myeloid leukaemia, 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, which outlines the approach that should be adopted in circumstances in which 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 NICE website.

- Azacitidine for the treatment of myelodysplastic syndrome, chronic myelomonocytic leukaemia and acute myeloid leukaemia. NICE technology appraisal guidance 218 (2011).
- Improving outcomes in haematological cancers. NICE cancer service guidance (2003).

Accreditation

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