



THE • BRITISH • THORACIC • SOCIETY

NICE
Level 1A, City Tower
Piccadilly Plaza
Manchester
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13 May 2011

Dear Sir,

Colistimethate sodium powder and tobramycin powder for inhalation for the treatment of pseudomonas lung infection in cystic fibrosis

The British Thoracic Society has the following comments on the final scope for this appraisal:

- In the proposed outcome measures it is suggested that an evaluation of patient preference should be included.
- Whilst adverse events need to be included, rates of resistance to antibiotic treatment are not necessarily adverse events and resistance is an increasingly meaningless term in relation to chronic pseudomonas infection. The latest CF Trust guidelines do not recommend routine sensitivity reporting as it does not seem to be relevant to clinical response to IV antibiotics. I suspect that same might be true of nebulised therapy.
- Rate and extent of microbial response is a rather vague concept in relation to the treatment of chronic infection although changes in colony forming units might be an informative measure.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

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British Thoracic Society CF Specialist Advisory Group

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