

**Re: Appraisal Consultation Document Bortezomib for Multiple Myeloma 17.07.06**

**1** In respect of relevant evidence being taken into account, yes, in general terms it would appear that all the relevant evidence has been taken into account

**2** In respect of clinical and cost effectiveness and impact on the NHS, sadly I cannot agree. It may well be that the clinical summary is a reasonable interpretation of the evidence submitted, but when one considers cost effectiveness I feel that the issue has been totally clouded by the fact that the NHS is in a perceived current financial crisis. The evidence considered document concludes that the position of Bortezomib in the clinical pathway for people with Multiple Myeloma is uncertain at present, but as a patient who received a 5 cycle course of Bortezomib in Jan 2006 which has now placed me in remission, it seems, in my experience, the pathway is extremely clear. My conclusion is that decisions made may have a fiscal background.

**3**. In respect of sound recommendations for guidance for the NHS I cannot agree that the provisional recommendations form an appropriate response to a drug that has been shown in my case to improve the quality and duration of life.

My personal view of this document is that money is more important than a patient's life, and this cannot be a sound basis for recommendation.