



National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

Bevacizumab, sorafenib, sunitinib and temsirolimus for the treatment of advanced and/or metastatic renal cell carcinoma

Royal College of Nursing

Introduction

With a membership of over 400,000 registered nurses, midwives, health visitors, nursing students, health care assistants and nurse cadets, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is the voice of nursing across the UK and the largest professional union of nursing staff in the world. RCN members work in a variety of hospital and community settings in the NHS and the independent sector. The RCN promotes patient and nursing interests on a wide range of issues by working closely with the Government, the UK parliaments and other national and European political institutions, trade unions, professional bodies and voluntary organisations.

Additional Analyses – RCN Response

The Royal College of Nursing welcomes the opportunity to review the report on the additional analyses of the health technology appraisal of Bevacizumab, sorafenib, sunitinib and temsirolimus for the treatment of advanced and/or metastatic renal cell carcinoma.

In our view, it would have been helpful to specify in the report who the DSU are and why it is appropriate to involve them at this stage of the appraisal.

The costs for palliative care seem very low and it seems that the terminal phase is quite short once patients stop Sunitinib.

It does not seem to have been taken into account anywhere that some patients continue to work while taking Sunitinib and therefore continue to pay taxes and NI contributions. Should this not have been taken into consideration in this appraisal?

November 2008