

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

Golimumab for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis after failure of previous disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs

Royal College of Nursing

Introduction

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) was invited to review the Appraisal Consultation Document (ACD) for Golimumab for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis after failure of previous disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs.

Nurses working in this area of health reviewed the consultation documents on behalf of the RCN.

Appraisal Consultation Document – RCN Response

The Royal College of Nursing welcomes the opportunity to review the Appraisal Consultation Document (ACD) of the technology appraisal of Golimumab for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis after failure of previous disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs. The RCN's response to the four questions on which comments were requested is set out below:

i) **Has the relevant evidence has been taken into account?**

We would ask that the evidence should include all relevant current evidence.

ii) **Are the summaries of clinical and cost effectiveness reasonable interpretations of the evidence, and are the preliminary views on the resource impact and implications for the NHS appropriate?**

The summaries of the clinical and cost effectiveness of this appraisal should be aligned to the clinical pathway followed by these patients. The preliminary views on resource impact and implications should be in line with established standard clinical practice.

- iii) **Are the provisional recommendations of the Appraisal Committee sound and do they constitute a suitable basis for the preparation of guidance to the NHS?**

Nurses working in this area of health have reviewed the recommendations of the Appraisal Committee and note that the committee is not recommending the use of this technology for treatment of people with rheumatoid arthritis. We also note that the Committee has asked the manufacturers for further information on the clinical and cost effectiveness of Golimumab for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in some populations. We are looking forward to receiving the Committee's decision after consideration at their next meeting.

- iv) **Are there any equality related issues that need special consideration that are not covered in the ACD?**

None that we are aware of at this stage. We would however, ask that any guidance issued should show that equality issues have been considered and that the guidance demonstrates an understanding of issues concerning patients' age, faith, race, gender, disability, cultural and sexuality where appropriate.