

Enzalutamide for metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer previously treated with a docetaxel-containing regimen

Information for the public

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What has NICE said?

Enzalutamide is recommended as a possible treatment option for adults with metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer, who have already had treatment with docetaxel-containing chemotherapy.

What does this mean for me?

If you have metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer and have already had treatment with docetaxel-containing chemotherapy, but your disease has progressed, and your doctor thinks that enzalutamide is the right treatment, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS.

Enzalutamide should be available on the NHS within 3 months of the guidance being issued.

Why has NICE said this?

Enzalutamide was recommended for treating metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer in patients who have already had treatment with docetaxel-containing chemotherapy because the benefit to these patients justifies the cost.

NICE looks at how well treatments work in relation to how much they cost compared with other treatments available on the NHS.

The condition and the treatment

When prostate cancer has spread to another part of the body, usually the bones or lungs, it is called advanced or metastatic prostate cancer. In most men with prostate cancer, the hormone testosterone makes the cancer grow faster. So prostate cancer can be treated with drugs that make the body produce less testosterone, or react to it in a different way. After a time, the cancer stops responding to such treatment – this is known as 'hormone-relapsed' cancer.

Enzalutamide (also known as Xtandi) works by stopping testosterone from getting to the cancer cells. This prevents prostate cancer cells from growing.

NHS Choices (www.nhs.uk) may be a good place to find out more.

Sources of advice and support

- CancerHelp UK, 0808 800 4040, www.cancerhelp.org.uk (the patient information website of Cancer Research UK)
- Macmillan Cancer Support, 0808 808 0000, www.macmillan.org.uk
- Prostate Cancer UK, 0800 074 8383, www.prostatecanceruk.org
- Tackle prostate cancer, 0845 601 0766, www.tackleprostate.org

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Accreditation

