

Fondaparinux (Arixtra[®])
(No. 18/02)

Sanofi-Synthelabo
Summary of Recommendation

8 November 2002

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has completed its assessment of the above product and advises NHS Boards and ADTCs on its use in NHS Scotland. The recommendation is summarised as follows:

ADVICE

Appropriate for use in NHS Scotland.

RECOMMENDATION

Compared with enoxaparin, fondaparinux has been shown to be associated with fewer thrombo-embolic events and a generally similar incidence of major bleeding. It is licensed for post-operative initiation, and this represents an advantage where regional anaesthesia and/or catheterisation are planned. It is predicted to be a cost effective alternative to enoxaparin in a robust economic model.

It may be considered for patients for whom antithrombotic therapy is appropriate, recognising that other antithrombotic agents and other approaches to prophylaxis may be more suitable in some situations.

Professor David H Lawson
Chairman