Scottish Medicines Consortium
Providing advice about the status of all newly licensed medicines
www.scottishmedicines.org.uk
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NHS SCOTLAND

Product Update

mercaptopurine 20mg/mL oral suspension (Xaluprine®) (No: 798/12)
Nova Laboratories Limited

06 July 2012

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

ADVICE: following an abbreviated submission

mercaptopurine 20mg/mL oral suspension (Xaluprine®) is accepted for use within NHS Scotland.

Indication under review: for the treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) in adults, adolescents and children.

Mercaptopurine dosing is governed by cautiously monitoring haematotoxicity. The oral suspension and tablet formulations are not bioequivalent in terms of peak plasma concentrations and therefore careful haematological monitoring of the patient is advised on switching formulations.

Mercaptopurine oral suspension is more expensive than the tablet formulation.

Advice context:

No part of this advice may be used without the whole of the advice being quoted in full.

This advice represents the view of the Scottish Medicines Consortium and was arrived at after evaluation of the evidence submitted by the company. It is provided to inform the considerations of Area Drug & Therapeutics Committees and NHS Boards in Scotland in determining medicines for local use or local formulary inclusion. This advice does not override the individual responsibility of health professionals to make decisions in the exercise of their clinical judgement in the circumstances of the individual patient, in consultation with the patient and/or guardian or carer.

This assessment is based on data submitted by the applicant company up to and including 11 June 2012.

Chairman
Scottish Medicines Consortium

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