



Medicine: brentuximab vedotin (brand name: Adcetris®)

Takeda UK Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed brentuximab vedotin for the treatment of adults with previously untreated, systemic anaplastic large cell lymphoma (sALCL). Brentuximab vedotin is used in combination with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and prednisone. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted brentuximab vedotin in combination with cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and prednisone for the treatment of sALCL as described above.

This SMC advice takes into account a confidential discount offered by the pharmaceutical company that improves the cost-effectiveness of brentuximab vedotin.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that brentuximab vedotin for use as described above is the right medicine for you, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS in Scotland.



What is brentuximab vedotin used for?

Brentuximab vedotin is used to treat sALCL, a cancer of a type of white blood cells called T lymphocytes. sALCL is a rare condition and has debilitating symptoms such as weight loss and fatigue. Brentuximab vedotin is used when the cancer has not been treated before. It is used in combination with medicines called cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin and prednisone (the combination of these three medicines is sometimes called CHP).

How does brentuximab vedotin work?

Brentuximab vedotin is an anti-cancer medicine that contains an antibody (brentuximab) which is linked to a chemotherapy agent (vedotin). The antibody recognises and binds to a protein (called CD30) found on the surface of some types of cancerous white blood cells, this allows the chemotherapy agent to kill the cancer cells.

How does SMC make its decision?

SMC carefully considers every new medicine to make sure it benefits patients and is considered to be an acceptable use of the limited resources in NHSScotland.

To do this SMC considers the following:

- Evidence from the company about how well the medicine works compared with current treatments available in Scotland, in relation to how much they will cost to buy and administer.
- The potential impact of the medicine on patients and carers.
- Advice from healthcare professionals about any benefits of the new medicine compared to current treatment, along with how the new medicine is likely to be used.

When SMC assesses a medicine it takes account of the needs of all patients in NHSScotland, not just those who may be treated with the medicine under consideration.

You can find more detailed information about the SMC assessment of brentuximab vedotin by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2310).

More information

The organisation below can provide more information and support for people with sALCL and their families. SMC is not responsible for the content of any information provided by external organisations.

Lymphoma Action



<http://www.lymphoma-action.org.uk>



0808 808 5555

You can find out more about brentuximab vedotin (Adcetris®) in the European public assessment report (EPAR) summary for the public by searching for the medicine name on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website.



<http://www.ema.europa.eu>