

abatacept (Orencia®), 250mg powder for concentrate for solution for injection (No: 618/10)

Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals Ltd

07 October 2011

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

abatacept (Orencia®) powder for solution for injection is accepted for restricted use within NHS Scotland.

Indication under review: in combination with methotrexate, abatacept is indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe active polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) in paediatric patients 6 years of age and older who have had an insufficient response to other disease modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) including at least one tumour necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitor. It has not been studied in children under 6 years old.

It should be restricted to use within specialist rheumatology services (including those working within the network for paediatric rheumatology). Abatacept is an anti-rheumatic agent that prevents T-lymphocyte activation.

Abatacept in combination with methotrexate has been accepted for restricted use in adults with severe active rheumatoid arthritis in line with the recommendations of the NICE Multiple Technology Appraisal no 195. NHS Quality Improvement Scotland advised that these recommendations were valid for NHS Scotland.

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 16 August 2011.

**Chairman
Scottish Medicines Consortium**

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