

**alendronate 70mg, colecalciferol 2800IU tablet (Fosavance<sup>®</sup>)**

**Merck, Sharp and Dohme Ltd**

**(No: 213/05)**

**Product Update**

4 October 2005

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

Alendronate/colecalciferol (Fosavance<sup>®</sup>) is accepted for use within NHS Scotland for the treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis in patients at risk of vitamin D insufficiency who require treatment with both alendronate and vitamin D and for whom once-weekly administration is appropriate. The combination preparation is cost saving compared to the two drugs administered separately.

Weekly administration of vitamin D represents a departure from routine clinical practice. In patients who also require calcium supplementation this will have to be administered separately, using a calcium preparation that does not also contain vitamin D.

**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 September 2005.*

**Chairman,  
Scottish Medicines Consortium**