

**aripiprazole solution for intramuscular injection 7.5 mg/ml  
in a 9.75 mg vial (Abilify®) (No: 522/08)**

**Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals Ltd**

**Product Update**

7 November 2008

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

**aripiprazole intramuscular injection (Abilify®)** is accepted for use in NHS Scotland for the rapid control of agitation and disturbed behaviours in patients with schizophrenia when oral therapy is not appropriate.

Where aripiprazole is an appropriate antipsychotic, this new formulation provides rapid control of symptoms at an equivalent cost to solid oral dosage forms.

SMC has not recommended aripiprazole for use within NHS Scotland for the treatment of manic episodes in bipolar 1 disorder. Therefore this formulation is not recommended for the rapid control of agitation and disturbed behaviours in patients with manic episodes in bipolar 1 disorder.

**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 15 September 2008.*

**Chairman, Scottish Medicines Consortium**