

infliximab (Remicade)

(No. 101/04)

Schering Plough

Summary of Recommendation

12 July 2004

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

ADVICE: following a full submission.

Infliximab (Remicade®) is not recommended for use within NHS Scotland for the treatment of ankylosing spondylitis, in patients who have severe axial symptoms, elevated serological markers of inflammatory activity and who have responded inadequately to conventional therapy.

In one relatively small study, it has demonstrated improvements in signs and symptoms, quality of life and physical functioning. However, there is no evidence of a decrease in joint damage. The economic case is not demonstrated.

The licence holder has indicated their decision to resubmit.

Professor David Webb
Deputy Chairman