

Methyl aminolevulinate 160mg/g cream (Metvix⁰) (No. 51/03)

Galderma (UK) Ltd

Summary of Recommendation

Indication: Superficial or nodular basal cell carcinoma

4 July 2003

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

Not recommended for use within NHS Scotland

RECOMMENDATION

Methyl aminolevulinate (Metvix) photodynamic therapy (PDT) may be a cost effective treatment option with good cosmetic outcomes which is suitable for patients with superficial or nodular basal cell carcinoma (BCC) who would experience significant treatment related morbidity or poor cosmetic outcomes with alternative therapies, such as radiotherapy and surgical techniques. Its use is intended to be restricted to dermatologists experienced in the treatment of BCC with PDT.

Nevertheless, the company have failed to produce any economic evaluation of this product and hence it cannot be approved for this indication by SMC.

Professor David H Lawson
Chairman