

Olanzapine (Zyprexa[®])

(No. 44/03)

Eli Lilly and Co Ltd

Summary of Recommendation

6 June 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

Recommended for restricted use within NHS Scotland.

RECOMMENDATION

Olanzapine is the first atypical antipsychotic to be licensed for the treatment of acute mania and is at least as effective as comparator treatments. It was associated with fewer extrapyramidal side effects than haloperidol and was similar to placebo in the rate of Parkinson-like effects. The management of mania is complex due to the variable presentation of the condition, the wide range of treatment options and a lack of clear guidance on their optimum use.

The use of olanzapine in the treatment of acute mania should be restricted to patients under the overall supervision of clinicians experienced in managing this complex disorder.

Professor David H Lawson
Chairman