



Medicine: neratinib (brand name: Nerlynx[®])

Pierre Fabre Ltd

The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has assessed neratinib for the adjuvant treatment (treatment after surgery) of patients with early stage breast cancer who completed adjuvant treatment with trastuzumab less than one year ago. It is used in breast cancers that are HER2 positive and hormone receptor positive. This document summarises the SMC decision and what it means for patients.

What has SMC said?

After careful consideration, SMC has accepted neratinib for the treatment of breast cancer as described above.

This advice takes into account a confidential discount offered by the pharmaceutical company that improves the cost-effectiveness of neratinib.

What does SMC's decision mean for patients?

If your healthcare professional thinks that neratinib for use as described above is the right medicine for you, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS in Scotland.



What is neratinib used for?

Neratinib is used to treat early stage breast cancer (that has not spread to other parts of the body). It is given after surgery to help stop the cancer from coming back. It is given to patients who have completed a course of trastuzumab (which is also given after surgery to help stop the cancer returning) less than a year ago. It is used only in breast cancers that have receptors for female hormones (HR positive) and that produce high levels of a protein called HER2 (HER2 positive) that helps the cancer cells divide.

How does neratinib work?

Neratinib works by blocking the actions of the HER2 protein. The HER2 protein helps the cancer cells to grow and divide. By blocking HER2, neratinib helps to stop these cancer cells growing, helping to reduce the chances of the cancer coming back.

How does SMC make its decision?

SMC carefully considers every new medicine to make sure it benefits patients and is considered to be an acceptable use of the limited resources in NHSScotland.

To do this SMC consider the following:

- Evidence from the company about how well the medicine works compared with current treatments available in Scotland, in relation to how much they will cost to buy and administer.
- The potential impact of the medicine on patients and carers.
- Advice from healthcare professionals about any benefits of the new medicine compared to current treatment, along with how the new medicine is likely to be used.

When SMC assesses a medicine it takes account of the needs of all patients in NHSScotland, not just those who may be treated with the medicine under consideration.

You can find more detailed information about the SMC assessment of neratinib by looking at the SMC Detailed Advice Document (SMC2251).

More information

The organisation below can provide more information and support for people with breast cancer and their families. SMC is not responsible for the content of any information provided by external organisations.

Breast Cancer Now



<https://breastcancernow.org/>



0808 800 6000

You can find out more about neratinib in the European public assessment report (EPAR) summary for the public by searching for the medicine name on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website.



<http://www.ema.europa.eu>