

# **Breakthrough Breast Cancer, Breast Cancer Campaign, Breast Cancer Care and Macmillan Cancer Support**

Dr Carole Longson  
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Dear Dr Longson,

## **Lapatinib for breast cancer (for use in women with previously treated advanced or metastatic breast cancer)**

### **Appraisal consultation document**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the consultation document for the appraisal of lapatinib for breast cancer. We have reviewed the evidence that was presented in the second ACD, including the additional data which has been provided by the manufacturer. Following this, we have jointly concluded that we have no additional comments to make further to our collaborative response submitted on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2008 from Breakthrough Breast Cancer, Breast Cancer Campaign, Breast Cancer Care and Macmillan Cancer Support.

We would, however, like to take this opportunity to reiterate that we are disappointed that the Appraisal Committee is unable to recommend lapatinib (in combination with capecitabine) for the routine treatment of women with advanced or metastatic breast cancer whose tumors overexpress HER2. As patient organisations, we would like to emphasise how important it is to offer patients greater treatment choice, especially for patients with metastatic disease who often have limited treatment options. We acknowledge the limitations in the data at the present time including the concerns over the remaining uncertainties and we welcome the call for further research to identify appropriate sub-groups to receive lapatinib treatment (such as patients with brain metastases).

**Breakthrough Breast Cancer, Breast Cancer Campaign,  
Breast Cancer Care and Macmillan Cancer Support**

If you require further information please contact

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