



National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

Lapatinib for the treatment of previously treated women with advanced, metastatic or recurrent breast cancer

Royal College of Nursing

Introduction

With a membership of over 400,000 registered nurses, midwives, health visitors, nursing students, health care assistants and nurse cadets, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is the voice of nursing across the UK and the largest professional union of nursing staff in the world. RCN members work in a variety of hospital and community settings in the NHS and the independent sector. The RCN promotes patient and nursing interests on a wide range of issues by working closely with the Government, the UK parliaments and other national and European political institutions, trade unions, professional bodies and voluntary organisations.

Appraisal Consultation Document – RCN Response

The Royal College of Nursing welcomes the opportunity to review the Appraisal Consultation Document (ACD) of the technology appraisal of Lapatinib for the treatment of previously treated women with advanced, metastatic or recurrent breast cancer.

Nurses working in this area of health have reviewed this document. We note that this health technology is not recommended of the routine treatment of women with advanced or metastatic breast cancer whose tumours over-express HER2 except in the context of clinical trials. This will obviously be disappointing news for this group of patients.

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