

19 October 2007



**National Institute for
Health and Clinical Excellence**

Sent as email

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Dear Consultee/Commentator

Health Technology Appraisal

Adalimumab, etanercept and infliximab for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis

Further to the attached email informing you of the outcome of the Appeal and decision by the panel to refer the Appraisal back in to the Appraisal programme, we are now in a position to give you updated information.

In order to be able to issue guidance to the NHS as quickly as possible the Institute has taken the decision to split the final appraisal determination (FAD) and to publish the guidance as two separate documents. As no appeals were upheld against the recommendations in the FAD detailing first use of TNF inhibitors we can therefore proceed directly to publish these without being subject to further appeal considerations.

With regard to sequential use of these treatments we are commissioning additional analysis. An update outlining the expected timelines and the expected publication date for guidance on sequential use will follow shortly.

Please find attached the final guidance on the first use of TNF inhibitors, scheduled to be published on Wednesday 24 October 2007. **Please note this document is confidential until then.**

If you have any questions or queries please contact the Project Manager for this appraisal, Natalie Bemrose (natalie.bemrose@nice.org.uk; 020 7067 5930).

Yours sincerely,

Carole Longson
Director, Centre for Health Technology Evaluation.