

NHS
**National Institute for
Health and Clinical Excellence**

10 April 2007

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Sent via email

Dear Consultee/Commentator,

Health Technology Appraisal

Bortezomib monotherapy for relapsed multiple myeloma

On 26 March 2007 you received the decision of the Appeal Panel after hearing the appeals logged against the guidance of bortezomib monotherapy for relapsed multiple myeloma.

In implementing the Appeal Panel's decision the Institute intends to consider the need to appraise the (unlicensed) use of bortezomib in combination with dexamethasone separately from the consideration of the licensed indication. Consideration of this use of bortezomib will require a new referral from the Department of Health. Therefore, in order to not impede the appraisal of the monotherapy (licensed) indication the committee will not consider off-label use of bortezomib at its meeting on the 8th May. In practice only scenarios 1 to 3 of the Appeal Panel decision will be addressed by committee in this May meeting.

The Institute is in dialogue with the Department of Health on this matter and we would be interested to receive your views on the appropriateness of undertaking a separate appraisal of the use of bortezomib in combination with dexamethasone. Any views that you wish to submit to the Institute will be forwarded to the Department of Health for their consideration of further referrals in relation to bortezomib.

Please submit your response to this letter to the Institute (Reetan.patel@nice.org.uk) by **Tuesday 8 May 2007**.

Yours sincerely

Carole Longson
Director, Centre for Health Technology Evaluation