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National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
[REDACTED]

5th May 2009

Dear [REDACTED],

Response to the Appraisal Consultation Document - Pemetrexed for the first line treatment of non-small-cell lung cancer

This letter is a response, on behalf of the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation. We hope that our points are duly considered and the Appraisal Committee reconsiders its decision.

We are extremely disappointed that, despite the expert testimony of our representative and of other key lung cancer professionals during the Appraisal Committee Meeting, the recently issued ACD on the use of Pemetrexed for the first line treatment of non-small cell lung cancer, reveals that the Committee is minded not to recommend this therapy. We are, however, pleased to note in paragraph 4, the Committee's conclusion that Pemetrexed is clinically effective in UK clinical practice, with increased survival and lower toxicity as compared with established therapy. We remind the Committee of the overall low survival rates for this patient group.

We do note the Appraisal Committee's request to the manufacturer for further clarification and cost-effectiveness analyses. After consideration of this, we strongly urge the Committee to issue a positive FAD for this therapy indication.

If you require further information please contact us at the address above.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]