

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence

Gefitinib for the first-line treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer

Royal College of Nursing

Introduction

The Royal College of Nursing was invited to comment on the Appraisal Consultation Document (ACD) of the technology appraisal of Gefitinib for the first-line treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer. Nurses caring for lung cancer patients reviewed this document.

The RCN welcomes the opportunity to comment on this document and responds below to the four questions on which comments were requested:

i) **Has the relevant evidence been taken into account?**

The evidence to date that has been considered by the appraisal committee appears to be comprehensive.

ii) **Are the summaries of clinical and cost effectiveness reasonable interpretations of the evidence, and are the preliminary views on the resource impact and implications for the NHS appropriate?**

There are no specific comments to make in this section at this stage.

iii) **Are the provisional recommendations of the Appraisal Committee sound and do they constitute a suitable basis for the preparation of guidance to the NHS?**

Nurses caring for this group of patients welcome the development of and access to Gefitinib. This provides a truly targeted treatment option with previously unseen survival benefits for a group of lung cancer patients. The technology is a very well tolerated treatment that is easily administered

orally. The patient does not need to attend hospital too frequently. The technology is a welcomed option for treatment in lung cancer.

iv) Are there any equality related issues that need special consideration that are not covered in the ACD?

We are not aware of any equality issues that have been missed at this stage.