



**University of
Leicester**

TGR/jak/trials/clopidogrel

10th June 2010

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[REDACTED]

Dr. Carole Longson
Director
Centre for Health Technology Evaluation
National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence
Level 1A, City Tower
Piccadilly Plaza,
MANCHESTER M1 4BD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Dr. Longson,

Re: Health Technology Appraisal: Clopidogrel and modified release Dipyridamole for the prevention of Occlusive Vascular Events (review of Technology Appraisal Number 90)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on behalf of the British Association of Stroke Physicians in respect of the assessment report produced by the Liverpool Reviews and Implementation Group in respect of the above Appraisal. I have the following comments:

1. I note that a comparison with aspirin and clopidogrel (as assessed in the CHARISMA and MATCH studies) has not been undertaken
2. I assume on Page 13 that the assessors are referring to clopidogrel alone, and **not** clopidogrel and modified release dipyridamole in combination (as I am not aware myself of a study that has undertaken an assessment of these two agents in combination)
3. I think it would be useful for a definition of aspirin and modified release dipyridamole intolerance to be provided.
4. There is no consideration on the duration of treatment, despite the fact that the previous guidance recommended the use of aspirin and modified release dipyridamole in combination for only two years before reverting to aspirin mono therapy, and given that longer term follow up is now available from more recent studies.
5. There also should be some consideration to the time of commencement of treatment, i.e. acute versus secondary prevention treatment, particularly given the recent publication of the EARLY Trial.
6. I note that 'bleeding' is defined in terms of efficacy on Pages 59 and 60, and this seems strange as I would I consider this more likely 'harm' than efficacy.

I hope that these comments are helpful and I look forward to discussing these and other documentation in more detail at the time of the meeting in July.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely,

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