

Name David Dodds

Date of diagnosis: November 2009

Age at diagnosis: 75

Diagnosis: Prostrate cancer

Skeletal involvement: Cancer was metastatic at presentation with distant spread to the bones.

Cervical disc prolapse.

Contact: [REDACTED]

The cancer has spread to the pelvis, base of the spine, femur and shoulder. I have also been diagnosed with osteoporosis.

I take a whole range of medication on a daily basis including diclofenac, pregabalin, paracetamol, and Oxynorm. I also receive a Goserelin implant every 12 weeks.

My pain occurs in two areas namely the shoulders and arm and the back and lumbar regions

The shoulder pain can be very intense and occurs at any time even during the early hours of the morning. Relief from the pain can only be achieved by the use of wheat bags which are heated in the microwave oven. The pain lasts about 1 to 2 hours during which time I am unable to do anything. If I am away from home I am unable to control this pain so it can cause me considerable distress.

I have received radiotherapy on my shoulders which was unsuccessful.

The back pain also occurs at any time without warning and during the pain episode I am totally incapacitated and unable to carry out simple tasks. Even walking short distances can bring on the pain and necessitates the use of a walking stick. The use of wheat bags brings relief but can only be used when I am at home. I have recently received radiotherapy on my lumbar region but it has not been successful.

These episodes of pain cause disruption to our family life as I am totally incapacitated and require help with dressing and assistance getting out of the bath. This puts heavy demands on my wife and there have been occasions when our family have been called on to help.

Summarising, my major problem with my pain is the uncertainty when it occurs, the intensity of the pain and that the only relief that can be achieved is by non-medical intervention. I have had to cancel arrangements at short notice when an attack occurs.

Therefore if Denosumab became available and could help me to lead a normal life then I would support the application to licence it