NICE Multiple Technology Appraisal (MTA):

Colistimethate sodium powder and Tobramycin powder for inhalation for the treatment of pseudomonas lung infection in cystic fibrosis [ID342]

We welcome the initial recommendation from the NICE, that Tobramycin dry powder for inhalation for cystic fibrosis (CF) should be an option.

However it is very disappointing to learn that NICE have initially decided not to recommend Colobreathe (colistimethate sodium dry powder for inhalation, Forest Laboratories).

As two consultees to the process - a patient with CF and a parent of a child with CF - we welcome new proven treatments such as Colobreathe that reduce treatment burden and encourage adherence. Dry powdered inhalers will have a meaningful impact on what is currently a relentless treatment regime. These new treatments will make a real difference to the everyday lives of people with CF, by making treatment easier and quicker. Improved adherence, due to decreased treatment burden, has been proven to result in improved health outcomes.

Dry powdered inhalers are also more efficient than many current nebulizer systems due to amount of the drug escaping into the air during nebulisation. These new devices will deliver the full dose using the correct technique.

If Tobramycin is the only treatment recommended, this will affect patient and clinician choice. Those who are not able to take or tolerate Tobramycin should similarly be able to be able to reduce their treatment burden. Therefore it is important that both therapies are made available for those with Cystic Fibrosis

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