30th June 2015

Novartis response to ACD for idelalisib for the treatment of previously treated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the updated ACD for this appraisal. We have several comments:

Has all of the relevant evidence been taken into account?

- Whilst on the whole we believe the relevant evidence has been taken into account, it is important to note that ofatumumab is no longer funded by the Cancer Drugs Fund and its use is extremely limited in the double refractory setting (i.e., the position reflecting its relevance as a comparator in this appraisal). Therefore it is questionable as to whether it should be included as a comparator in the evaluation.

Are the summaries of clinical and cost effectiveness reasonable interpretations of the evidence?

- Ofatumumab is available for all indications at a discount agreed in a patient access scheme associated with TA344 (Ofatumumab in combination with chlorambucil or bendamustine for untreated chronic lymphocytic leukaemia). Therefore if the Committee believe that ofatumumab is still relevant as a comparator, the interpretation of the cost effectiveness evidence should reflect the fact that the ICER for idelalisib in this comparison is likely to be significantly higher using currently available pricing.

Are the provisional recommendations sound and a suitable basis for guidance to the NHS?

- Yes