

Enzalutamide for treating metastatic hormone relapsed prostate cancer before chemotherapy is indicated

Information for the public

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What has NICE said?

Enzalutamide (Xtandi) is recommended as a possible treatment for people with metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer who have no or mild symptoms after androgen deprivation treatment has stopped working, and before chemotherapy is needed.

What does this mean for me?

If you have metastatic hormone-relapsed prostate cancer, and your doctor thinks that enzalutamide is the right treatment, you should be able to have the treatment on the NHS.

Enzalutamide should be available on the NHS within 3 months of the guidance being issued.

Why has NICE said this?

NICE looks at how well treatments work in relation to how much they cost compared with other treatments available on the NHS.

Enzalutamide was recommended because the benefits to patients justify its cost.

The condition and the treatment(s)

When prostate cancer has spread to another part of the body, it is called advanced or metastatic prostate cancer. In most men with prostate cancer, the hormone testosterone makes the cancer grow faster. So prostate cancer can be treated with drugs that make the body produce less testosterone, or react to it in a different way. This is called androgen deprivation treatment

After a time, the cancer stops responding to such treatments – this is known as 'hormone-relapsed' cancer.

Enzalutamide (Xtandi) is another drug that works by stopping testosterone from getting to the cancer cells. Chemotherapy is used to control metastatic prostate cancer that is not responding to hormone therapy, and can reduce symptoms.

[NHS Choices](#) may be a good place to find out more.

Sources of advice and support

- Cancer Research UK Patient Information, 0808 800 4040, www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer
- Macmillan Cancer Support, 0808 808 0000, www.macmillan.org.uk
- Prostate Cancer UK, 0800 074 8383, www.prostatecanceruk.org
- Tackle Prostate Cancer, 0845 601 0766, www.tackleprostate.org

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Accreditation

