The National Collaborating Centre for Cancer (NCC-C) makes the following comments on the ACD:

1. NCC-C fully supports the recommendation that degarelix should be used for men with newly diagnosed metastatic prostate cancer who are at risk of impending spinal cord compression.
2. NCC-C advises the committee to consider recommending a switch to an LHRH agonist after the man has been stabilised on degarelix. Please find attached published evidence that a switch from LHRH antatgonist to LHRH agonist was safe and effective after 3 months treatment with the LHRH antagonist, aberalix. The use of an LHRH agonist is more convenient with 3-monthly depot preparations available. In addition the LHRH agonists goserelin, leuprorelin and triptorelin offer significant cost savings with annual drug costs of £828 to £940 ex-VAT compared with an annual maintenance cost of £1552 ex-VAT for degarelix. These men could be on therapy for a number of years.

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National Collaborating Centre for Cancer / Canolfan Genedlaethol Cydweithredu dros Ganser
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The NCC-C is responsible for developing guidelines for treating and caring for people with cancer for publication by NICE and for use by the NHS in England and Wales.
http://www.nice.org.uk/