National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

Single Technology Appraisal (STA)

Pembrolizumab for treating recurrent or metastatic squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck after platinum-based chemotherapy

Response to consultee and commentator comments on the draft remit and draft scope (pre-referral)

Please note: Comments received in the course of consultations carried out by NICE are published in the interests of openness and transparency, and to promote understanding of how recommendations are developed. The comments are published as a record of the submissions that NICE has received, and are not endorsed by NICE, its officers or advisory committees.

Comment 1: the draft remit

Section	Consultee/ Commentator	Comments [sic]	Action
Appropriateness	Merck, Sharpe & Dohme	MSD agrees that it is appropriate for this topic to be referred to NICE for appraisal.	Noted. No action required.
Additional comments on the draft remit	Bristol Myers Squibb	BMS understand the manufacturer has recently announced that the randomised phase III trial (KEYNOTE-040) investigating pembrolizumab in previously treated patients with recurrent or metastatic head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC) failed to meet its pre-specified primary endpoint of overall survival (OS).	Comment noted. NICE will issue a recommendation for pembrolizumab only if it receives a marketing authorisation. The committee will appraise the technology within the boundaries of its marketing authorisation.