

Putting NICE guidance into practice

Resource impact report: Venetoclax with azacitidine for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable (TA765)

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Summary

NICE has recommended [venetoclax with azacitidine](#), within its marketing authorisation, as an option for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia in adults when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable. It is recommended only if the company provides venetoclax according to the commercial arrangement (see section 1).

We estimate that:

- 650 people with acute myeloid leukaemia are eligible for treatment with venetoclax with azacitidine
- 555 people will receive venetoclax with azacitidine from year 1 onwards with uptake levels of 85% as shown in table 1. This is a continuation of treatments levels currently taking place.
- The uptake level at year 1 onwards is a result of funding allocated during the pandemic for people to be treated with venetoclax with azacitidine.

Table 1 Estimated number of people in England receiving venetoclax

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Uptake rate for venetoclax with azacitidine (%)	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Population receiving venetoclax each year	555	555	555	555	555

This report is supported by a local resource impact template because the list price of venetoclax has a discount that is commercial in confidence. The discounted price of venetoclax can be put into the template and other variables may be amended.

This technology is commissioned by NHS England. Providers are NHS hospital trusts.

1 Venetoclax

- 1.1 NICE has recommended [venetoclax](#) with azacitidine, within its marketing authorisation, as an option for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia in adults when intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable. It is recommended only if the company provides venetoclax according to the commercial arrangement.
- 1.2 Intensive chemotherapy is unsuitable for about 40% of people with untreated acute myeloid leukaemia. This may be because of fitness status, age, or presence of comorbidities.
- 1.3 Existing treatment options in adults with acute myeloid leukaemia who are ineligible for intensive chemotherapy remain very limited. Currently, azacitidine and low dose cytarabine represent the only approved treatment options at diagnosis and are the current standard of care outside the setting of clinical trials.

2 Resource impact of the guidance

- 2.1 We estimate that:
- 650 people with untreated acute myeloid leukaemia are eligible for treatment with venetoclax with azacitidine each year.
 - 555 people will receive venetoclax with azacitidine from year 1 onwards with uptake levels of 85% as shown in table 2.
 - The uptake level at year 1 onwards is a result of funding allocated during the pandemic for people to be treated with venetoclax with azacitidine.
- 2.2 The current treatment and future uptake figure assumptions are based on NHSE & I clinical expert opinion and are shown in the resource impact template. Table 2 shows the number of people in England who are estimated to receive venetoclax with azacitidine by financial year.

Table 2 Estimated number of people receiving venetoclax using NICE assumptions

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Uptake rate for venetoclax with azacitidine (%)	85%	85%	85%	85%	85%
Population receiving venetoclax each year	555	555	555	555	555

2.3 This report is supported by a local resource impact template. Venetoclax has a commercial arrangement (simple discount patient access scheme). This makes venetoclax available to the NHS with a discount. The size of the discount is commercial in confidence. It is the company's responsibility to let relevant NHS organisations know details of the discount.

Savings and benefits

2.4 The clinical trial evidence showed that people having venetoclax with azacitidine live longer than people having azacitidine or low dose cytarabine alone.

3 Implications for commissioners

3.1 This technology is commissioned by NHS England. Providers are NHS hospital trusts.

3.2 Venetoclax falls within the programme budgeting category PBC 02I Cancer, Haematological.

4 How we estimated the resource impact

The population

- 4.1 In 2019, around 3,100 new cases of adults with acute myeloid leukaemia were recorded in England ([Public Health England, 2021](#)).
- 4.2 Table 3 shows the total number of people with acute myeloid leukaemia who are eligible for treatment with venetoclax. with azacitidine.

Table 3 Number of people eligible for treatment in England

Population	Proportion of previous row (%)	Number of people
Total population ¹		56,286,961
Adult population ¹		44,263,393
Incidence of acute myeloid leukaemia aged 18 and over ²	0.007%	3,120
Proportion who receive first line treatment ³	95%	2,970
Proportion unsuitable for intensive but suitable for low dose chemotherapy ⁴	22%	650
Total number of people eligible for treatment with venetoclax with azacitidine		650
Total number of people estimated to receive venetoclax with azacitidine each year from year five ⁵	85%	555
¹ Office for National Statistics		
² Cancer Registration Statistics, England 2019 - NHS Digital		
³ Company submission		
⁴ Company and NHS England and NHS Improvement clinical expert opinion		
⁵ NHS England and NHS Improvement clinical expert opinion		

Assumptions

- 4.3 The resource impact template assumes that:

- Low dose cytarabine and azacitidine alone are the only comparators for venetoclax.
- Administration cost with venetoclax with azacitidine, azacitidine and low dose cytarabine is based on weighted average cost using [NHS national tariff 2021/22](#) elective HRG codes SA25 K-M - Acute Myeloid see resource impact template for more details.
- Table 4 below outlines the assumptions made on assumed future market share.

Table 4 Assumptions made on current and future practice.

People eligible for venetoclax		
Current Practice	Future practice (year 5)	Rationale
0% of people receive venetoclax with azacitidine	85% of people receive venetoclax with azacitidine	NHS England and NHS Improvement clinical expert opinion
75% of people receive azacitidine	11% of people receive azacitidine	NHS England and NHS Improvement clinical expert opinion
25% of people receive low dose cytarabine	4% of people receive low dose cytarabine	NHS England and NHS Improvement clinical expert opinion
Total 100%	Total 100%	

About this resource impact report

This resource impact report accompanies the NICE guidance on [venetoclax with azacitidine for untreated acute myeloid leukaemia](#) and should be read with it.

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