

# Pembrolizumab plus chemotherapy for untreated, triple-negative, locally recurrent unresectable or metastatic breast cancer

Information for the public

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[www.nice.org.uk](http://www.nice.org.uk)

Pembrolizumab (Keytruda) with paclitaxel or nab-paclitaxel is available on the NHS as a possible treatment for breast cancer in adults if their cancer:

- is triple negative, which means it does not have receptors for estrogen or progesterone and does not produce a protein called HER2
- has come back in the same place (locally recurrent)
- cannot be removed by surgery (unresectable) or has spread to other parts of the body (metastatic).

Their tumours must also express a type of protein called PD-L1 with:

- a score of 10 or more on a scale called the combined positive score and
- a score of less than 1% on an immune cell staining test.

## Is this treatment right for me?

Your healthcare professionals should give you clear information, talk with you about your options and listen carefully to your views and concerns. Your family can be involved too, if you wish. Read more about [making decisions about your care](#).

## Questions to think about

- How well does it work compared with other treatments?
- What are the risks or side effects? How likely are they?
- How will the treatment affect my day-to-day life?
- What happens if the treatment does not work?
- What happens if I do not want to have treatment? Are there other treatments available?

## Information and support

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

These organisations can give you advice and support:

- [Breast Cancer Now](#), 0808 800 6000
- [Cancer Research UK](#), 0808 800 4040
- [Macmillan Cancer Support](#), 0808 808 0000
- [METUPUK](#), 0300 030 3101

You can also get support from your local [Healthwatch](#).

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