Treatments for renal cell carcinoma [ID6186]

Analysis Plan: Plain English Summary

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Treatments for renal cell carcinoma

Plain English summary

There are many treatments currently available for renal cell carcinoma, or RCC, which is a type of cancer that begins in the kidney. People may receive several treatments for their cancer. This project will evaluate a new drug for people with a form of RCC that has spread to other areas of the body. Typically, when NICE looks at the evidence for a new drug, they only consider the specific times when people in the NHS would likely receive the treatment (for example, before or after surgery or after having tried a few other drugs), and do not consider the other types of treatments that people could receive earlier or later in their disease. One limitation of that approach is that NICE needs to repeat the process for every new potential treatment, which may be less efficient if it means that some work is duplicated. It can also mean that different treatments for the same condition, like RCC, could be considered using different standards, which may be unfair. In this project, NICE are trying out a new approach that involves looking at all the available drug treatments for RCC at the same time. This will not include any surgeries for RCC or any drug treatments that are given in combination with or immediately following surgery.

To do this, NICE will gather all the evidence on how effective treatments are for people with both early and advanced RCC. In addition, NICE will consider how effective treatments are in comparison to how much these cost the NHS. NICE will take into account what we know about people with RCC treated in the NHS, the typical treatments they receive, and their cancer and health outcomes. Data for the project will be taken from clinical trials of treatments for RCC as well as real-life data from people with RCC who have been treated in the NHS or other healthcare systems abroad. NICE will initially look at the newest treatment for advanced RCC within these analyses, which is a combination called cabozantinib and nivolumab. Then in the future, it is expected that all new treatments for RCC will be evaluated building on what we learned from this process. This means that all new treatments will be considered using the same methods, and the process will be more efficient.

Because we are trying this out for the first time, NICE will be evaluating how well the project works. This will include considering how much time and resource is needed

to conduct a large study of so many treatments at the same time, as well as how real-life data from people with RCC can be used to inform the analyses.

The analysis plan explains the methods that will be used in the project, including the treatments that will be included, the types of data that we will look for, and the way that the data will be analysed.