

## South Central Priorities Committees (Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes PCTs)

Policy Statement 62b: Research trials and NHS funding:  
- Funding of post trial medicines

Date of Issue: Revised January 2010, Issued April 2005

This policy advises on the current status and relative priority of funding medicines for patients at the end of a clinical trial.

***The South Central Priorities Committees recommend that:***

***Funding of “post-trial” drugs for trial patients is a LOW PRIORITY. When a clinical trial is planned, patient expectations should not be raised that the continuation of the trial treatment will continue to be funded by the NHS after the end of the trial. Ethics and R&D committees have a responsibility to ensure that this information is included in the trial protocol, Patient Information leaflet and the consent form. PCTs will not routinely make additional funding available (unless this has been agreed in advance).***

***Where post-trial treatment continues by the drug companies on so called “compassionate basis” (and therefore at no cost to the NHS), it may not be assumed that the NHS will subsequently pick up this cost even when the drug receives its licence.***

***The new treatments may be considered by the relevant Priorities Committee, which will assess the available evidence against the criteria in the South Central Ethical Framework and make recommendations on the introduction of such treatments into the NHS.***

### NOTES:

1. Exceptional circumstances may be considered where there is evidence of significant health impairment and there is also evidence of the intervention improving health status.
2. This policy will be reviewed in light of new evidence or guidance from NICE.
3. Buckinghamshire/Milton Keynes Priorities Committee policy statements can be viewed at <http://www.miltonkeynes.nhs.uk/default.asp?ContentID=548>