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5 July 2018

Emailed to:
East Midlands Acute Providers
Medical Directors

Dear Medical Director

NICE Technology Appraisal 513: Obinutuzumab for untreated advanced follicular lymphoma

I am writing to advise you regarding NHS England's position on the recently published NICE Technology Appraisal guidance for obinutuzumab for untreated advanced follicular lymphoma. The guidance can be found at: https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta513

NICE, in their Technology Appraisal (TA 513) published 21st March 2018, have stated that:

> Obinutuzumab is recommended as an option for untreated advanced follicular lymphoma in adults (that is, first as induction treatment with chemotherapy, then alone as maintenance therapy), only if:
>
> - the person has a Follicular Lymphoma International Prognostic Index (FLIPI) score of 2 or more
> - the company provides obinutuzumab with the discount agreed in the patient access scheme (PAS).

From 19th June 2018, NHS England will routinely commission obinutuzumab in line with these recommendations and according to a set of criteria which translates the NICE recommendation into a clinical guide as to use in practice. These treatment criteria can be found in section B of the national CDF list at https://www.england.nhs.uk/cancer/cdf/cancer-drugs-fund-list/ or on the application form(s) on the Blueteq site.

It should be noted that obinutuzumab has received interim funding from the new CDF from 09th February 2018 and will continue to receive funding until 19th June 2018 and so there may be a number of patients already commenced on treatment prior to the time it is routinely commissioned by NHS England.

In addition:

- Trusts must purchase obinutuzumab at the agreed PAS discounted price.
- Trusts must complete a Blueteq form for all new patients receiving obinutuzumab in order to confirm the patient meets the treatment criteria for use in NHS England. It should be noted that there is no requirement to re-register existing CDF patients in the routine commissioning section of the Blueteq system as these will be automatically transferred. However, there may be a delay in the information on these patients being visible as the transfer needs to occur out of working hours.
- Trusts must register obinutuzumab use on SACT.
- Trusts must provide estimated patient numbers on obinutuzumab who will transfer from the CDF to NHS England specialised commissioning hubs.
- Trusts must invoice obinutuzumab only against its main specialised commissioning contract for all drug dispensed from 19th June 2018 and also ensure that the details are recorded against the main drug minimum data set (drug MDS) for that contract. Charging to the separate Cancer Drugs Fund drug MDS and accompanying invoices will cease for any dispensing from this date in this indication.

Any enquiries from NHS organisations about the patient access scheme should be directed to global.pas@roche.com.

I would be grateful if you could cascade this information to relevant clinical teams within your organisation to support the consistent adoption of the policy nationally.

Yours sincerely

Susan Bowler
Assistant Director, Specialised Commissioning
East Midlands NHS England – Midlands and East

Copies to: Provider Chief Executive
Provider Chief Pharmacist