

Treatment Appraisal: Decision Summary

Date	8 th October 2009
Appraisal	Bevacizumab (Avastin®) and ranibizumab (Lucentis®) in the management of non-AMD choroidal neovascular disease
Details	An application for the use of bevacizumab or ranibizumab for the treatment of choroidal neovascular disease due to causes other than age-related macular degeneration was received from the North East Retinal Group.
Recommendation	<p>NETAG recommends bevacizumab 1.25 mg intravitreal injection using a ‘when required’ dose regimen for the treatment of non-AMD CNV, as described in the North East Retinal Group treatment guideline (October 2009 version).</p> <p>This recommendation had previously been deferred from July 2009 pending receipt of a suitable treatment guideline.</p>
Clinical evidence summary	The group noted that the majority of the evidence relates to the use of bevacizumab, and despite the product not being licensed for intravitreal administration, were of the opinion that this is the preferred option. The group acknowledged that the evidence is generally of lower quality but is at least comparable to that supporting the use of photo-dynamic therapy (currently the principal treatment option). As with PDT, the majority of the evidence relates to myopic CNV, although the group was satisfied that aVEGF treatment could be safely offered to treat other causes of CNV.
Cost analysis summary	The group noted that any shift of treatment from PDT to aVEGF is likely to result in reduced costs, with bevacizumab being substantially less costly than ranibizumab. There is a potential risk of increased costs if both treatments are offered sequentially. No additional investments are considered necessary (e.g. training, hardware).
Financial impact	<p>Cost per treatment episode (admission and drug cost only):</p> <p>PDT - £1,846</p> <p>Bevacizumab - £578</p> <p>Ranibizumab - £894</p> <p>Cost per annum for NHS North East based on 120 treatment episodes (i.e. 30 patients per annual cohort, two treatments per annum per patient, two cohorts)</p> <p>PDT - £221,500</p> <p>Bevacizumab - £69,360</p> <p>Ranibizumab - £163,440</p>
Further research or information	NETAG will endeavour to collate utilisation data in co-operation with the Northern Specialised Commissioning Team after a period of 12 to 18 months.

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