



Northern Treatment
Advisory Group

Northern (NHS) Treatment Advisory Group

Treatment Appraisal: Decision Summary

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| Date | 24 th November 2015 |
| Appraisal & Details | <p>Toujeo[®] (Sanofi) Insulin Glargine 300 units/ml for the treatment of type 1 or type 2 diabetes mellitus.</p> <p>The Northern (NHS) Treatment Advisory Group considered an appraisal of Toujeo[®] insulin glargine 300 units per ml for the treatment of diabetes in adults.</p> |
| Recommendation | <p>The Northern (NHS) Treatment Advisory Group recommends the use of Toujeo[®] insulin glargine as an option for use in adults who are eligible for treatment with insulin glargine as per NICE guidance (NG17, 2015).</p> <p>The group noted that Toujeo[®] was shown to be non-inferior to Lantus[®] in reducing HBA1c in both T1DM and T2DM. Toujeo[®] represents an additional treatment option for patients that require a long-acting insulin analogue and who are not currently able to achieve optimal glycaemic control. Due to a flatter and more prolonged pharmacodynamic profile Toujeo allows patients greater flexibility in the timing of their once-daily injection compared with Lantus and offers the advantage of a smaller volume of injection.</p> <p>However, switching from Lantus to Toujeo is not straightforward, as the drugs are not bioequivalent and are not directly interchangeable. A switch can be done on a unit-to-unit basis, but higher doses of Toujeo (approximately 10-18%) may be required to achieve similar levels of glucose control.</p> <p>If used Toujeo[®] must be prescribed by brand name to prevent any confusion. It should be noted that the Solostar[®] pen will only discharge a maximum of 80 units in one injection.</p> |
| Clinical evidence summary | <p>The clinical efficacy of Toujeo[®] (insulin glargine 300 units/ml) given once-daily was compared to that of once-daily Lantus[®] (insulin glargine 100 units/ml) in four open-label, randomised, active-control, parallel group studies of up to 26 weeks duration in patients with T1DM (EDITION 4), and patients with T2DM (EDITION 1, 2 and 3). Each study comprised of a six-month main study period followed by a six-month comparative safety extension period. Toujeo[®] was shown to be non-inferior to Lantus[®] in reducing HBA1c in type 1 and type 2 diabetes. The incidence of nocturnal severe and/or confirmed hypoglycaemia was a significantly lower with Toujeo[®] in T2DM, but showed no difference in T1DM.</p> |
| Safety | <p>The overall safety profile of Toujeo[®] was comparable to the well-established safety profile of Lantus[®]. No new or unexpected safety signals were detected.</p> <p>Several new insulin products have come to market recently, and healthcare professionals and patients need to understand the insulin strength of these products and how to use them correctly to minimise the risk of medication</p> |

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| | errors such as the wrong insulin dose being administered. An organisational risk minimisation strategy around use of high strength and biosimilar insulin's would be advisable to reduce the risk of errors, particularly around the interface i.e on hospital admission or discharge. |
| Patient Perspective | Toujeo® allows patients greater flexibility in the timing of their dosing due to the more prolonged pharmacodynamic profile. It also offers the advantage of a smaller volume of subcutaneous injection and so may be less painful, <u>however</u> as Toujeo® is not directly equivalent to Lantus® higher doses (approximately 10-18%) may be required. |
| Cost analysis summary | A three pack of 1.5ml (1,350 units) SoloStar prefilled pen costs £33.13. The per unit acquisition cost of Toujeo® is lower than Lantus® and a similar cost to the only available biosimilar Abasaglar®. However, Toujeo® and Lantus® and its biosimilars are not bioequivalent and therefore are not interchangeable. |
| Financial impact PbR: In-tariff | <p>In the NTAG area more is spent on drugs for diabetes than any other BNF section. A total of 425,392 insulin items were prescribed at a cost of around £19.1 million. Of these, insulin glargine accounted for 20% at a cost of around £4.4 million.</p> <p>Use of Toujeo® as an option is likely to be cost neutral in comparison to Lantus®.</p> |