The use of paclitaxel in the management of early stage breast cancer

Citation

Authors' conclusions
The submission did not include a systematic review for clinical or cost-effectiveness evidence. As a result, potentially relevant trials and previously published studies were omitted. The main comparator used did not represent standard care in the UK NHS and a large number of relevant comparators were omitted, including docetaxel, another taxane, as licensed for the same indication. The manufacturer did not consider potentially important patient subgroups defined by baseline risk, and the cost-effectiveness result in the average overall patient population may conceal important variation between subgroups. Overall, although the economic model may have indicated that the addition of four cycles of paclitaxel to four cycles of AC may be cost-effective compared with providing four cycles of AC only, this comparison is not informative to current clinical practice in the UK NHS. In the context of this review it is not possible for the ERG to predict the cost-effectiveness of paclitaxel compared with more appropriate, and potentially more effective, relevant comparators such as six cycles of FAC or the licensed indication of docetaxel. It is therefore impossible for the ERG to predict what effect including these comparators would have on the cost-effectiveness of paclitaxel for adjuvant treatment of early breast cancer.

Project page URL
http://www.hta.ac.uk/erg/supplements/supplement1301.pdf#nameddest=article03

Final publication URL
http://www.hta.ac.uk/1543

Indexing Status
Subject indexing assigned by NLM

MeSH
Antineoplastic Combined Chemotherapy Protocols /economics /therapeutic use; Breast Neoplasms /drug therapy; Clinical Trials as Topic; Cost-Benefit Analysis; Cyclophosphamide /administration & dosage; Doxorubicin /administration & dosage; Females; Paclitaxel /administration & dosage; Technology Assessment, Biomedical

Language Published
English

Country of organisation
England

English summary
An English language summary is available.

Address for correspondence
NETSCC, Health Technology Assessment, Alpha House, University of Southampton Science Park, Southampton, SO16 7NS UK Tel: +44 23 8059 5586 Email: hta@hta.ac.uk

AccessionNumber
32011001404
Date abstract record published
20/10/2011