NewTherapiesSubgroup

GMMMG Greater Manchester Medicines Management Group

NHS

December 16th 2014

Apixaban (Eliquis®▼) for the treatment and prevention of recurrent Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) and Pulmonary Embolism (PE) in adults.

The New Therapies Subgroup (NTS) discussed the above drug at a meeting on the 16th December 2014.The recommendation of this subgroup is as follows:*

The New Therapies Subgroup of the GMMMG considered the use of apixaban for the treatment and prevention of recurrent deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary embolism (PE) in adults.

The group does not recommend the routine use of apixaban for the above indication; however it may be suitable for use in patients who are not suitable for LMWH plus warfarin or for rivaroxaban.

The clinical trial data shows that apixaban is non-inferior to warfarin for this indication however no direct comparisons between the newer oral anticoagulants are currently available. It is therefore difficult to ascertain if apixaban offers any advantages over other available treatments for the slightly increased cost per patient. In addition apixaban is a twice daily product which may be less convenient for some patients.

The group also noted several factors within the clinical trial (i.e. 80% pre-treatment with at least one dose of parenteral anticoagulant in both groups and restricting the primary efficacy analysis to the intention to treat population only) that may have decreased the power of the trial to detect any true differences between the groups biasing the result in favour of non-inferiority.

According to set criteria apixaban for the above indication was deemed to be a low priority for funding.

Review date: August 2016

* Unless superseded by NICE guidance or substantial and significant new evidence becomes available.
▼ Newly marketed drugs and vaccines are intensively monitored for a minimum of two years, in order to confirm the risk / benefit profile of the product. Healthcare professionals are encouraged to report all suspected adverse drug reactions regardless of the severity of the reaction.