



28th September 2010

Methylnaltrexone (Relistor®▼) for the treatment of opioid-induced constipation.

The New Therapies Subgroup discussed the above drug at a meeting on the 21st October 2008 and 28th September 2010. The recommendation of this subgroup is as follows:*

The New Therapies Subgroup of the GMMMG considered the use of Methylnaltrexone (Relistor®▼) for the treatment of opioid-induced constipation in adults with advanced illness receiving palliative care.

The group recommends that Methylnaltrexone (Relistor®▼) may be a treatment option for laxative resistant opioid induced constipation. Treatment with methylnaltrexone should only be commenced on the advice of a palliative care specialist if standard maximal laxative therapy is ineffective.

The group would also like to remind prescribers that methylnaltrexone should not be used for non-opioid induced constipation.

Review date: October 2012

* Unless superseded by NICE guidance or substantial and significant new evidence becomes available.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.