



Grŵp Strategaeth Meddyginiaethau Cymru Gyfan
All Wales Medicines Strategy Group

Licensed One Wales Medicines Assessment Group Recommendation
Abiraterone film-coated tablet

Date of advice: May 2025
AWTTC reference number: 6441

Abiraterone is recommended for use within NHS Wales with prednisone or prednisolone for the treatment of newly diagnosed high risk metastatic hormone sensitive prostate cancer (mHSPC) in combination with androgen deprivation therapy (ADT).

Abiraterone should be prescribed on the basis of lowest acquisition cost.

This recommendation has been endorsed by the All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG) and ratified by Welsh Government.

This recommendation is interim to the review of NICE Technology Appraisal 721.

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AWTTC

All Wales Therapeutics & Toxicology Centre
Canolfan Therapiwteg a Thocsicoleg Cymru Gyfan

Licensed Medicines One Wales Medicine Assessment Group summary of decision rationale

Medicine: **Abiraterone limited assessment**

Indication: With prednisone or prednisolone, for treatment of newly diagnosed high risk metastatic hormone sensitive prostate cancer (mHSPC) in combination with androgen deprivation therapy (ADT)

Meeting date: **7 April 2025**

Criteria	LOWMAG opinion
Clinical effectiveness	The scrutiny panel acknowledged that clinical effectiveness is already established and therefore no clinical effectiveness evidence was presented or considered by LOWMAG.
Cost-effectiveness	As this is a limited assessment cost effectiveness is not considered.
Budget impact	<p>LOWMAG considers the estimated patient numbers extrapolated from Velindre Cancer Centre figures will be lower than actual uptake in Wales. In some centres abiraterone may be the first choice of anti-androgen therapy and uptake is likely to be considerably higher.</p> <p>The group considers the use of the median treatment duration from the STAMPEDE, TITAN and ARCHES clinical trials to provide reasonable estimates for treatment duration on abiraterone, apalutamide and enzalutamide. The group accepted rounding of treatment duration to three years for all three medicines to be acceptable.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that use of comparators was based on Velindre Cancer Centre data only and the proportion of enzalutamide versus apalutamide used in practice could vary.</p> <p>Whilst acknowledging the absence of costs for treatment of additional monitoring and adverse event treatment LOWMAG consider the base case presented to be a reasonable estimate of the expected budget impact.</p> <p>LOWMAG acknowledge that any future availability of generics for comparator medicines will reduce the cost saving.</p>
Resource use	<p>LOWMAG noted the additional resource required for monitoring serum transaminase levels on initiation of abiraterone. It was estimated to equate to one additional clinician-led outpatient appointment per patient compared to the comparators.</p> <p>The group consider any potential additional resource use will vary dependent upon uptake by centres.</p>
Other factors	LOWMAG noted interim commissioning advice from NHS England and that NICE will be reviewing their

	<p>recommendation, any AWMSG advice will be superseded following NICE review. Abiraterone is available in Scotland following appraisal by SMC.</p> <p>LOWMAG acknowledge that abiraterone may be more suitable for patients at risk of falls or susceptible to cognitive side effects. The group also note that abiraterone is associated with significantly fewer drug interactions than abiraterone or enzalutamide and may provide an anti-androgen treatment option for patients receiving medication for comorbidities.</p>
<p>Final recommendation</p>	<p>LOWMAG recommends the use of abiraterone with prednisone or prednisolone, for treatment of newly diagnosed high risk metastatic hormone sensitive prostate cancer (mHSPC) in combination with androgen deprivation therapy (ADT). Abiraterone with the lowest acquisition cost should be used.</p> <p>This advice will be interim to review of NICE TA721.</p>
<p>Summary of rationale</p>	<p>LOWMAG acknowledge that there is inequity of access to abiraterone for treatment of mHSPC both within Wales and between Wales and the other nations of the UK.</p> <p>LOWMAG recognises that abiraterone is cost saving compared to enzalutamide and apalutamide.</p>