



21 March 2013
EMA/CHMP/166944/2013
Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP)

Summary of opinion¹ (post authorisation)

MabThera rituximab

On 21 March 2013, the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion recommending a variation to the terms of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product MabThera. The marketing authorisation holder for this medicinal product is Roche Registration Ltd. They may request a re-examination of the CHMP opinion, provided that they notify the European Medicines Agency in writing of their intention within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

The CHMP adopted a new indication as follows:

" Granulomatosis with polyangiitis and Microscopic polyangiitis

MabThera, in combination with glucocorticoids, is indicated for the induction of remission in adult patients with severe, active Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (Wegener's) (GPA) and Microscopic polyangiitis (MPA)."

Detailed conditions for the use of this product will be described in the updated summary of product characteristics (SmPC), which will be published in the revised European public assessment report (EPAR), and will be available in all official European Union languages after the variation to the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.

For information, the full indications for MabThera will be as follows²:

MabThera is indicated in adults for the following indications:

Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL)

MabThera is indicated for the treatment of previously untreated patients with stage III-IV follicular lymphoma in combination with chemotherapy.

MabThera maintenance therapy is indicated for the treatment of follicular lymphoma patients responding to induction therapy.

¹ Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the Commission decision, which will normally be issued within 44 days (Type II variations) and 67 days (Annex II applications) from adoption of the opinion.

² The text in bold represents the new or the amended indication.



MabThera monotherapy is indicated for treatment of patients with stage III-IV follicular lymphoma who are chemoresistant or are in their second or subsequent relapse after chemotherapy.

MabThera is indicated for the treatment of patients with CD20 positive diffuse large B cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in combination with CHOP (cyclophosphamide, doxorubicin, vincristine, prednisolone) chemotherapy.

Chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL)

MabThera in combination with chemotherapy is indicated for the treatment of patients with previously untreated and relapsed/refractory chronic lymphocytic leukaemia. Only limited data are available on efficacy and safety for patients previously treated with monoclonal antibodies including MabThera or patients refractory to previous MabThera plus chemotherapy.

Rheumatoid arthritis

MabThera in combination with methotrexate is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with severe active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to other disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARD) including one or more tumour necrosis factor (TNF) inhibitor therapies.

MabThera has been shown to reduce the rate of progression of joint damage as measured by x-ray and to improve physical function, when given in combination with methotrexate.

Granulomatosis with polyangiitis and Microscopic polyangiitis

MabThera, in combination with glucocorticoids, is indicated for the induction of remission in adult patients with severe, active Granulomatosis with polyangiitis (Wegener's) (GPA) and Microscopic polyangiitis (MPA).