



**COMMITTEE FOR MEDICINAL PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN USE**  
**POST-AUTHORISATION SUMMARY OF POSITIVE OPINION\***  
**for**  
**ALIMTA**

International Nonproprietary Name (INN): *pemetrexed*

On 29 May 2009 the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion\*\* to recommend the variation to the terms of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Alimta. The Marketing Authorisation Holder for this medicinal product is Eli Lilly Nederland B.V.

The CHMP adopted a new indication as follows:

“Alimta is indicated as monotherapy for the maintenance treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer other than predominantly squamous cell histology in patients whose disease has not progressed immediately following platinum-based chemotherapy. First line treatment should be a platinum doublet with gemcitabine, paclitaxel or docetaxel (see Section 5.1).”

Detailed conditions for the use of this product will be described in the updated Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC) 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 indication for Alimta will be as follows\*\*\*:

Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma:

Alimta in combination with cisplatin is indicated for the treatment of chemotherapy naïve patients with unresectable malignant pleural mesothelioma.

Non-small cell lung cancer:

Alimta in combination with cisplatin is indicated for the first line treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer other than predominantly squamous cell histology (see section 5.1).

**Alimta is indicated as monotherapy for the maintenance treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer other than predominantly squamous cell histology in patients whose disease has not progressed immediately following platinum-based chemotherapy. First line treatment should be a platinum doublet with gemcitabine, paclitaxel or docetaxel (see section 5.1).**

Alimta is indicated as monotherapy for the second line treatment of patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer other than predominantly squamous cell histology (see section 5.1).

---

\* 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.

\*\* Marketing Authorisation Holders may request a re-examination of any CHMP opinion, provided they notify the EMEA in writing of their intention to request a re-examination within 15 days of receipt of the opinion.

\*\*\* The text in bold represents the new or the amended indication.