On 25 April 2014, 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 Gilenya. The marketing authorisation holder for this medicinal product is Novartis Europharm Limited. 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 change to an indication as follows:

Gilenya is indicated as single disease modifying therapy in highly active relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis for the following adult patient groups:

- Patients with high disease activity despite treatment with at least one disease modifying therapy (for exceptions and information about washout periods see sections 4.4 and 5.1).

These patients may be defined as those who have failed to respond to a full and adequate course (normally at least one year of treatment) of at least one disease modifying therapy. Patients should have had at least 1 relapse in the previous year while on therapy, and have at least 9 T2-hyperintense lesions in cranial MRI or at least 1 Gadolinium-enhancing lesion. A "non-responder" could also be defined as a patient with an unchanged or increased relapse rate or ongoing severe relapses, as compared to the previous year.

or

- Patients with rapidly evolving severe relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis defined by 2 or more disabling relapses in one year, and with 1 or more Gadolinium enhancing lesions on brain MRI or a significant increase in T2 lesion load as compared to a previous recent MRI.

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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.
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.