

16 December 2021 EMA/702822/2021 Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP)

Summary of opinion¹ (post authorisation)

Keytruda pembrolizumab

On 16 December 2021, the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a positive opinion recommending a change to the terms of the marketing authorisation for the medicinal product Keytruda. The marketing authorisation holder for this medicinal product is Merck Sharp & Dohme B.V.

The CHMP adopted an extension to the existing indication as follows:²

Renal cell carcinoma (RCC)

Keytruda, in combination with axitinib, is indicated for the first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma in adults (see section 5.1).

Keytruda, in combination with lenvatinib, is indicated for the first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma in adults (see section 5.1).

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the adjuvant treatment of adults with renal cell carcinoma at increased risk of recurrence following nephrectomy, or following nephrectomy and resection of metastatic lesions (for selection criteria, please see section 5.1).

For information, the full indications for Keytruda will be as follows:

Melanoma

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of advanced (unresectable or metastatic) melanoma in adults.

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the adjuvant treatment of adults with Stage III melanoma and lymph node involvement who have undergone complete resection (see section 5.1).

Non-small cell lung carcinoma (NSCLC)

¹ Summaries of positive opinion are published without prejudice to the Commission decision, which will normally be issued 67 days from adoption of the opinion

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² New text in bold

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the first-line treatment of metastatic non-small cell lung carcinoma in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 with a \geq 50% tumour proportion score (TPS) with no EGFR or ALK positive tumour mutations.

Keytruda, in combination with pemetrexed and platinum chemotherapy, is indicated for the first-line treatment of metastatic non-squamous non-small cell lung carcinoma in adults whose tumours have no EGFR or ALK positive mutations.

Keytruda, in combination with carboplatin and either paclitaxel or nab-paclitaxel, is indicated for the first-line treatment of metastatic squamous non-small cell lung carcinoma in adults.

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung carcinoma in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 with a \geq 1% TPS and who have received at least one prior chemotherapy regimen. Patients with EGFR or ALK positive tumour mutations should also have received targeted therapy before receiving Keytruda.

Classical Hodgkin lymphoma (cHL)

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of adult and paediatric patients aged 3 years and older with relapsed or refractory classical Hodgkin lymphoma who have failed autologous stem cell transplant (ASCT) or following at least two prior therapies when ASCT is not a treatment option.

Urothelial carcinoma

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who have received prior platinum-containing chemotherapy (see section 5.1).

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma in adults who are not eligible for cisplatin-containing chemotherapy and whose tumours express PD-L1 with a combined positive score (CPS) \geq 10 (see section 5.1).

Head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC)

Keytruda, as monotherapy or in combination with platinum and 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) chemotherapy, is indicated for the first-line treatment of metastatic or unresectable recurrent head and neck squamous cell carcinoma in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 with a CPS \geq 1 (see section 5.1).

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the treatment of recurrent or metastatic head and neck squamous cell carcinoma in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 with a \geq 50% TPS and progressing on or after platinum-containing chemotherapy (see section 5.1).

Renal cell carcinoma (RCC)

Keytruda, in combination with axitinib, is indicated for the first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma in adults (see section 5.1).

Keytruda, in combination with lenvatinib, is indicated for the first-line treatment of advanced renal cell carcinoma in adults (see section 5.1).

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the adjuvant treatment of adults with renal cell carcinoma at increased risk of recurrence following nephrectomy or following nephrectomy and resection of metastatic lesions (for selection criteria, please see section 5.1).

Colorectal cancer (CRC)

Keytruda as monotherapy is indicated for the first-line treatment of metastatic microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair deficient (dMMR) colorectal cancer in adults.

Oesophageal carcinoma

Keytruda, in combination with platinum and fluoropyrimidine based chemotherapy, is indicated for the first-line treatment of locally advanced unresectable or metastatic carcinoma of the oesophagus or HER-2 negative gastroesophageal junction adenocarcinoma in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 with a CPS \geq 10 (see section 5.1).

Triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC)

Keytruda, in combination with chemotherapy, is indicated for the treatment of locally recurrent unresectable or metastatic triple-negative breast cancer in adults whose tumours express PD-L1 with a CPS \geq 10 and who have not received prior chemotherapy for metastatic disease (see section 5.1).

Endometrial carcinoma (EC)

Keytruda, in combination with lenvatinib, is indicated for the treatment of advanced or recurrent endometrial carcinoma in adults who have disease progression on or following prior treatment with a platinum-containing therapy in any setting and who are not candidates for curative surgery or radiation.

Detailed recommendations 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 a decision on this change to the marketing authorisation has been granted by the European Commission.