Pending CCG approval

NHS
Pan Mersey
Area Prescribing Committee

GUSELKUMAB injection (Tremfya® ▼) for psoriatic arthritis

The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of GUSELKUMAB injection (Tremfya® ▼), by specialists only, for psoriatic arthritis in accordance with NICE TA711

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NICE technology appraisal (TA) 711 recommends guselkumab, alone or with methotrexate, as an option for treating active psoriatic arthritis in adults whose disease has not responded well enough to disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) or who cannot tolerate them, only if they have:

- peripheral arthritis with 3 or more tender joints and 3 or more swollen joints,
- moderate to severe psoriasis (a body surface area of at least 3% affected by plaque psoriasis and a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index [PASI] score greater than 10),
- had 2 conventional DMARDs and at least 1 biological DMARD.[1]

Guselkumab is recommended only if the company provides it according to the commercial arrangement.[1]

Prescribing and monitoring of therapy must be retained by a specialist in the management of psoriatic arthritis.

Assess the response to guselkumab from 16 weeks. Stop guselkumab at 24 weeks if psoriatic arthritis has not responded adequately using the Psoriatic Arthritis Response Criteria (PsARC; an adequate response is an improvement in at least 2 of the 4 criteria, 1 of which must be joint tenderness or swelling score, with no worsening in any of the 4 criteria). If PsARC response does not justify continuing treatment but there is a PASI 75 response, a dermatologist should decide whether continuing treatment is appropriate based on skin response.[1]

NICE does not expect this guidance to have a significant impact on resources; that is, the resource impact of implementing the recommendations in England will be less than £5 million per year in England (or £9,000 per 100,000 population). This is because guselkumab is a further treatment option and is available at a similar price to the current treatment options.

References

1. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. Technology Appraisal 711; Guselkumab for treating active psoriatic arthritis after inadequate response to DMARDs, 30 June 2021. Accessed online 30 June 2021.

Note: Patients who are not eligible for treatment under this statement may be considered on an individual basis where their GP or consultant believes exceptional circumstances exist that warrant deviation from the rule of this policy. In this situation, follow locally defined processes.

APC board date: 28 Jul 2021 Prescribing policy statement
Review date: Jul 2023 (or earlier if there is significant new evidence relating to this recommendation) Version: 2.0
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