

BIMEKIZUMAB solution for injection (Bimzelx® ▼) for moderate to severe plaque psoriasis

The Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee recommends the prescribing of BIMEKIZUMAB solution for injection (Bimzelx® ▼), by specialists only, for the treatment of moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in accordance with NICE TA723.

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[NICE technology appraisal \(TA\) 723](#) recommends bimekizumab as an option for treating plaque psoriasis in adults only if:

- The disease is severe, as defined by a total Psoriasis Area and Severity Index (PASI) of 10 or more and a Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) of more than 10 **and**
- the disease has not responded to other systemic treatments, including ciclosporin, methotrexate and phototherapy, or these options are contraindicated or not tolerated **and**
- the company provides the drug according to the commercial arrangement.

If patients and their clinicians consider bimekizumab to be one of a range of suitable treatments **choose the least expensive** (taking into account availability of biosimilar products, administration costs, dosage, price per dose and commercial arrangements).

Assess response to bimekizumab after 16 weeks of treatment and only continue treatment only if there is clear evidence of response, defined as;

- a 75% reduction in the PASI score (PASI 75) from when treatment started **or**
- a 50% reduction in the PASI (PASI 50) and a 5-point reduction in DLQI from when treatment started.¹

Prescribing and monitoring of therapy must be retained by a specialist in the management of plaque psoriasis.

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 bimekizumab is a further treatment option and the overall cost of treatment will be similar to current treatment options.

References

1. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. Technology Appraisal (TA) 723: [Bimekizumab for treating moderate to severe plaque psoriasis](#), 01 September 2021. Accessed online 01 September 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.