

NCPE Assessment

Plain English Summary

November, 2023

Drug name: Tepotinib (pronounced teh-POH-tih-nib) for the treatment of adult patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) harbouring alterations leading to mesenchymal-epithelial transition factor gene exon 14 (METex14) skipping, who require systemic therapy following prior treatment with immunotherapy and/or platinum-based chemotherapy.

Brand name: Tepmetko®

HTA ID: 22025

What is the NCPE?

The National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics (NCPE) is a team of experts who look at the health benefits and costs of medicines. The HSE asks us to advise on whether or not a new medicine is good value for money. We give unbiased advice to help the HSE provide the most effective, safe and cost-effective (value for money) treatments for patients.

How do we make our recommendations?

Our main focus is on the health benefits and cost effectiveness of a medicine. We look at the wider costs and health benefits associated with a new medicine, for example:

- Does the new medicine work better than other treatments available in Ireland?
- Is the new medicine easier to give or easier to take compared with other treatments available in Ireland?
- Does the new medicine reduce the need for patients to be hospitalised?
- Does the new medicine improve the quality of a patient's life over other treatments available in Ireland?
- Will the new medicine save resources elsewhere within the health system?

We review the information from clinical trials along with the cost and value for money data presented by the pharmaceutical company. We ask doctors and other healthcare professionals for advice about any health benefits of the new medicine compared with current treatments. We also ask patient organisations to send us their views on how the new drug may improve patients' day-to-day experience of living with a disease.

What is tepotinib used for?

Tepotinib is a cancer medicine that is used to treat adults with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) when the cancer is advanced and its cells have particular genetic mutations (changes) leading to 'mesenchymal-epithelial transition factor gene exon 14' (METex14) skipping. This means that the cancer cells make an abnormal form of a protein called MET because a part of the MET gene known as exon 14 is not used. Tepotinib is used when the patient needs further treatment after receiving immunotherapy or platinum-based

chemotherapy, or both.

What recommendation has the NCPE made to the HSE?

We have recommended that the HSE should consider not funding tepotinib unless its cost effectiveness (value for money) can be improved relative to existing treatments. The HSE will consider our recommendation and make the final decision about reimbursement (funding). When making the funding decision, the HSE will also consider the additional [criteria](#) outlined in the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013.

Why did we make this recommendation?

After reviewing the data presented by the pharmaceutical company, we concluded that tepotinib may work as well or better than other ways to manage this condition. However, the price of the medicine is too high compared with other ways to manage this condition, and we believe that the medicine is very poor value for money.

The HSE considers a number of factors along with our recommendation when deciding whether to provide this medicine. These factors are listed in the Health (Pricing and Supply of Medical Goods) Act 2013.

Next steps

When the HSE receives our recommendation, it will look at all the relevant data about tepotinib. The HSE makes the final decision on reimbursement.

Where can I get more information?

You can get more information about tepotinib from the following online options:

- the NCPE Technical Summary Document
- Tepmetko® European Public Assessment Report (EPAR) – [Summary for the public](#) or
- searching for tepotinib on our website (www.ncpe.ie);
- searching for tepotinib on the European Medicines Agency (EMA) website (www.ema.europa.eu).

Please refer to the NCPE website for updated information on the reimbursement status of this medicine.