

Review of Cancer Supportive Care Medicines

Recommendations from the MOH Drug Advisory Committee

Guidance Recommendations

The Ministry of Health's Drug Advisory Committee has reviewed the available clinical evidence for cancer supportive care medicines routinely used in public healthcare institutions to update the MOH List of Subsidised Drugs in line with local clinical practice. The following medicines have been recommended for inclusion on the MOH Standard Drug List (SDL) or Medication Assistance Fund (MAF) in line with their registered indications or specific clinical criteria for cancer supportive care, in view of clinical need and acceptable clinical and cost-effectiveness:

- ✓ Aprepitant 125 mg and 80 mg tri-pack capsules;
- ✓ Cetirizine 10 mg tablet;
- ✓ Denosumab 60 mg/mL prefilled syringe;
- ✓ Denosumab 120 mg/1.7 mL solution for injection;
- ✓ Epoetin alfa 10,000 IU/mL and 40,000 IU/mL prefilled syringes;
- ✓ Epoetin beta 10,000 IU/0.6 mL and 30,000 IU/0.6 mL prefilled syringes;
- ✓ Folic acid 400 mcg tablet;
- ✓ Granisetron 1 mg tablet;
- ✓ Granisetron 1 mg/mL and 3 mg/3 mL solution for injection;
- ✓ Ketamine 500 mg/10 mL solution for injection;
- ✓ Montelukast 10 mg tablet;
- ✓ Oxycodone 5 mg and 10 mg capsules;
- ✓ Posaconazole 100 mg delayed-release tablet;
- ✓ Pegfilgrastim (Neulastim) 6 mg/0.6 mL prefilled syringe;
- ✓ Pegfilgrastim biosimilar (Fulphila) 6 mg/0.6 mL prefilled syringe;
- ✓ Pregabalin 25 mg, 50 mg, 75 mg, 100 mg, 150 mg and 300 mg capsules;
- ✓ Ranitidine 150 mg tablet; and
- ✓ Voriconazole 50 mg and 200 mg tablets.

Medicines that have not been recommended for subsidy due to unacceptable cost-effectiveness are listed in the Annex.

The clinical indications, subsidy class and subsidy implementation dates (if applicable) for all medicines included in the review are provided in the Annex.

ANNEX

Recommendations by the MOH Drug Advisory Committee

Drug preparation (Brand)	Clinical indications	Subsidy class (implementation date)
Anti-emetics		
Aprepitant 125 mg and 80 mg tri-pack capsules	Prevention of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting in patients receiving highly emetogenic chemotherapy.	SDL* (1 Sep 2022)
Aprepitant 80 mg capsule	Prevention of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting in patients receiving highly emetogenic chemotherapy.	MAF^
Granisetron 1 mg tablet; 1 mg/mL, 3 mg/3 mL solution for injection	Prevention of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
Netupitant 300 mg/palonosetron 0.5 mg capsule	Prevention of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting in patients receiving highly emetogenic chemotherapy.	MAF^
Anti-fungals		
Posaconazole 100 mg delayed-release tablet	Prophylaxis of invasive fungal infections in high-risk patients and haematopoietic stem cell transplant recipients.	SDL* (1 Sep 2022)
Voriconazole 50 mg and 200 mg tablets	Treatment of invasive aspergillosis.	SDL* (1 Sep 2022)
	Treatment of candidaemia in non-neutropenic patients.	
	Treatment of fluconazole-resistant candidiasis.	
	Treatment of serious infections from <i>Scedosporium</i> and <i>Fusarium</i> species.	
Bone modifying agents		
Denosumab 60 mg/mL prefilled syringe	Treatment to increase bone mass in women at high risk of fracture who are receiving adjuvant aromatase inhibitor therapy for non-metastatic breast cancer.	MAF (1 Sep 2022)
	Treatment to increase bone mass in men at high risk of fracture who are receiving androgen deprivation therapy for non-metastatic prostate cancer.	
Denosumab 120 mg/1.7 mL solution for injection	Prevention of skeletal-related events in patients with bone metastases from breast cancer, castration-resistant prostate cancer, lung cancer, and all other solid tumours.	MAF (1 Sep 2022)
	Treatment of adults and skeletally mature adolescents with giant cell tumour of the bone that is unresectable or where surgical resection is likely to result in severe morbidity.	
Cancer pain medicines		
Ketamine 500 mg/10 mL solution for injection	Treatment of opioid-refractory cancer pain.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
Oxycodone 5 mg and 10 mg capsules	Management of moderate to severe cancer pain when other opioids (e.g., morphine/fentanyl) are contraindicated or not effective.	MAF (1 Sep 2022)

Oxycodone 1 mg/mL oral solution	Management of opioid responsive, moderate to severe pain.	Not recommended for subsidy
Oxycodone 10 mg and 20 mg controlled-release tablets	Management of pain severe enough to require daily, around-the-clock, long-term opioid treatment and for which alternative treatment options are inadequate.	Not recommended for subsidy
Oxycodone/naloxone 5/2.5 mg, 10/5 mg, 20/10 mg prolonged-release tablets	Management of moderate to severe chronic pain unresponsive to non-opioid analgesics.	Not recommended for subsidy
Pregabalin 25 mg, 50 mg, 75 mg, 100 mg, 150 mg, 300 mg capsules	Treatment of neuropathic pain.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
Growth factors		
Epoetin alfa 10,000 IU/mL and 40,000 IU/mL prefilled syringes	Treatment of anaemia and reduction of transfusion requirements in cancer patients receiving chemotherapy.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
	Treatment of anaemia (haemoglobin concentration of ≤ 10 g/dL) in patients with low- or intermediate-1-risk myelodysplastic syndromes who have low serum erythropoietin (< 200 mU/mL).	
Epoetin beta 10,000 IU/0.6 mL and 30,000 IU/0.6 mL prefilled syringes	Treatment of symptomatic anaemia in patients with non-myeloid malignancies who are receiving chemotherapy.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
	Treatment to reduce transfusion requirements in patients with refractory anaemia associated with myelodysplastic syndromes.	
Pegfilgrastim (Neulastim) and Pegfilgrastim biosimilar (Fulphila) 6 mg/ 0.6 mL prefilled syringe	Reduction in the duration of neutropenia and the incidence of febrile neutropenia in patients treated with cytotoxic chemotherapy for malignancy (with the exception of chronic myeloid leukaemia and myelodysplastic syndromes).	SDL (Fulphila – 1 Sep 2022) (Neulastim – 1 Apr 2023)
Others		
Cetirizine 10 mg tablet	Pre-medication for prevention of hypersensitivity reactions prior to chemotherapy.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
Duloxetine 30 mg, 60 mg capsules	Treatment of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy.	Not recommended for subsidy
Folic acid 400 mcg tablet	Supportive medication for pemetrexed-based chemotherapy.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
Montelukast 10 mg tablet	Pre-medication for prevention of hypersensitivity reactions prior to chemotherapy.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)
Prednisolone 1% eye drop	Prevention of cytarabine-induced conjunctivitis.	Not recommended for subsidy
Ranitidine 150 mg tablet	Prevention of gastrointestinal adverse effects from high-dose steroids.	SDL (1 Sep 2022)

Abbreviations: MAF, Medication Assistance Fund; SDL, Standard Drug List

*reclassified from MAF to SDL due to generic availability and/or acceptable price reductions proposed by the manufacturer

^no change in listing

 Agency for Care Effectiveness - ACE  Agency for Care Effectiveness (ACE)

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As the national HTA agency, ACE conducts evaluations to inform government subsidy decisions for treatments, diagnostic tests and vaccines, and produces guidance for public hospitals and institutions in Singapore.

This guidance is based on the evidence available to the MOH Drug Advisory Committee as at 20 May 2022 and 28 Feb 2023. It is not, and should not be regarded as, a substitute for professional or medical advice. Please seek the advice of a qualified healthcare professional about any medical condition. The responsibility for making decisions appropriate to the circumstances of the individual patient remains with the healthcare professional.

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Chief HTA Officer
Agency for Care Effectiveness
Email: ACE_HTA@moh.gov.sg

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