

NHS ENGLAND SPECIALISED SERVICES CLINICAL PANEL REPORT

Date: January 2020

Intervention: Proton beam therapy

Indication: Breast cancer (all ages)

ID: 1787

Gateway: 2 Round 1

Programme: Cancer

CRG: Radiotherapy

Information provided to the panel

Clinical Panel Report from Gateway 1

Evidence Review August 2018 and Evidence Review October 2019 undertaken by Solutions for Public Health

Clinical Priorities Advisory Group (CPAG) Summary Report x2

Policy Proposition

Key elements discussed

This proposition is proposed as not for routine commissioning.

Two evidence reviews have been undertaken for this proposition, one undertaken in August 2018 and an updated one with revised research questions in October 2019. Both were presented to Panel and agreed to be balanced against the evidence found. Proton Beam Therapy (PBT) was not proven to provide an advantage over current therapy from the evidence presented. There was no significant difference in quality of life reported with PBT.

Panel considered the evidence to be of low quality and of retrospective design. It was suggested that prospective trials with longer follow up was needed.

Panel noted that a proposal for a research trial was currently being considered with the support of NIHR.

Within the proposition paragraphs had been inserted relating to heart sparing radiotherapy and Panel questioned the necessity of this. They were informed that the Policy Working Group included this to demonstrate a reduction in dosage, for stakeholders to understand.

The Panel noted a discrepancy between the CPAG summary report (October 2019 version) and the policy proposition relating to the reporting of outcomes of disease free progression (PBT non comparator section) and should be checked.

Panel were informed that there are currently two CPAG Summary Reports and these would be amalgamated into one.

Recommendation

Clinical Panel recommended that this proposition progresses as not for routine commissioning to stakeholder testing once the actions had been completed.

Why the panel made these recommendations

The Clinical Panel considered that there was not sufficient evidence to support a routine commissioning position.

Documentation amendments required

Policy Proposition:

- Page 3 and 4 – check whether the information relating to heart-sparing radiotherapy is a necessary inclusion in the proposition.

CPAG Summary Report:

- Evidence review provider to review the two reports and amalgamate
 - October report – review table labelled *b) Proton beam therapy (no comparator)* at section number two as progression free survival is not reported but is in the policy. This needs to be cross referenced with the evidence review. Clinical Effectiveness Team to review.
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Declarations of Interest of Panel Members: None.

Panel Chair: James Palmer, Medical Director