

CROHN'S & COLITIS UK

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To whom it may concern

This letter is to remind you of the funding guidance for 8 week maintenance doses of ustekinumab for Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis.

Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis are incurable, lifelong diseases of the gut. These conditions require careful monitoring and management, often over several decades from the age of diagnosis. If left untreated, poorly managed or in cases of severe disease, Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis can cause serious complications, which require emergency medical and/or surgical intervention. Evidence has shown that a patient with a serious flare costs the NHS six times more money than a patient in remission.¹ Therefore it is pertinent that patients receive effective treatment in a timely manner.

According to NICE guidelines TA456 and TA633, ustekinumab is recommended within its marketing authorization as an option for treating Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis. The current marketing authorization are as follows:

- Patients who have not shown adequate response at 8 weeks after the first subcutaneous dose may receive a second subcutaneous dose at this time.
- Patients who lose response on dosing every 12 weeks may benefit from an increase in dosing frequency to every 8 weeks.
- Patients may subsequently be dosed every 8 weeks or every 12 weeks according to clinical judgment.

I hope you will review your funding decision.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Sleet
CEO, Crohn's & Colitis UK

¹ Ghosh N. and Premchand P. (2015). A UK cost of care model for inflammatory bowel disease. *Frontline Gastroenterol.* 6 (3):169-174.