

25-8-08

Pharmacotherapeutic report on temsirolimus (Torisel) for the indication 'relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma'

Summary: therapeutic value

Favourable effects. Using temsirolimus for relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma results in a progression-free survival that is 3 months longer than when other medicines are used for this indication. No statistically significant difference in general survival was demonstrated. Quality of life was not studied.

Unfavourable effects. Using temsirolimus is frequently associated with severe side effects.

Experience. Limited experience has been obtained with temsirolimus for any other indication than mantle cell lymphoma.

Applicability. Temsirolimus can be put to broad use. An important exception is the combination with medicines that influence the activity of the liver enzyme CYP3A4.

Ease of use. The ease of use of temsirolimus is the same as that of other medicines that are used for this indication.

Final conclusion. The therapeutic value of temsirolimus is the same as that of other palliative medicines used on patients with a relapsed or refractory mantle cell lymphoma.

The original text of the summary of this CFH-report was in Dutch. Although great care was taken in translating the text from Dutch to English, the translation may nevertheless have resulted in discrepancies. Rights may only be derived on the basis of the Dutch version of the summary of the CFH-report. Furthermore, CVZ points out that only the summary of this report was translated. A proper understanding of all relevant considerations and facts would require familiarity with the Dutch version of this report, including all appendices.