



**pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review  
Provincial Advisory Group (PAG) Feedback on a  
pCODR Expert Review Committee Initial  
Recommendation**

**Axitinib (Inlyta) for mRCC**

March 7, 2013

### 3 Feedback on pERC Initial Recommendation

Name of the drug indication(s):      Axitinib (Inlyta) for metastatic renal cell carcinoma

Endorsed by:                                  Provincial Advisory Group Vice-Chair

Feedback was provided by seven of the nine provinces (Ministries of Health and/or provincial cancer agencies) participating in pCODR.

#### 3.1 Comments on the Initial Recommendation

a) Please indicate if the PAG (either as individual PAG members and/or as a group) agrees or disagrees with the initial recommendation:

\_\_\_ Agrees                                    X   Agrees in part                                  \_\_\_ Disagree

PAG members providing feedback agreed in part with the initial pERC recommendation to fund axitinib as an alternative to the current standard of care, everolimus, in the second line setting for mRCC. The recommendation allows for a treatment option in patients who may have treatment limiting intolerance or contraindication to everolimus despite the lack of a direct head-to-head comparison between axitinib and everolimus. PAG members agreed that the submitted AXIS trial demonstrates that axitinib possess biological activity and confers a PFS survival advantage over sorafenib in the second-line setting of mRCC (although noting that this advantage was smaller in the subgroup of patients treated with sunitinib in the first-line setting).

PAG members indicated the need for clarity in the wording of the recommendation and suggested that it speak directly to the evidence presented in the AXIS trial with regards to the clinical efficacy/safety of axitinib as compared to sorafenib. Members noted that the results of this direct head-to-head trial are very relevant in some jurisdictions where sorafenib is currently funded in second-line mRCC, after first-line treatment with cytokine therapy.

PAG members noted that the initial recommendation assumes similar pricing of axitinib to everolimus however members suggested this be a “next step for stakeholders” to ensure this similar pricing. Members also noted that as there was no head to head comparison between axitinib and everolimus, additional clarity is needed regarding the rationale to limit the patient population to those who are intolerant to everolimus as opposed to allowing axitinib to be an alternative to everolimus in the second line setting. PAG noted that this issue around patient population may not be resolved in the context of an early conversion.

b) Notwithstanding the feedback provided in part a) above, please indicate if the PAG would support this initial recommendation proceeding to final pERC recommendation (“early conversion”), which would occur within 2(two) business days of the end of the consultation period.

  X   Support conversion to final recommendation.                                  \_\_\_ Do not support conversion to final recommendation.  
Recommendation does not require reconsideration by pERC.                                  Recommendation should be reconsidered by pERC.

Most PAG members providing feedback supported the conversion of the pERC initial recommendation to a pERC final recommendation.

One member did not support conversion to a final recommendation.

- c) Please provide feedback on the initial recommendation. Is the initial recommendation or are the components of the recommendation (e.g., clinical and economic evidence) clearly worded? Is the intent clear? Are the reasons clear?

Page Number	Section Title	Paragraph, Line Number	Comments and Suggested Changes to Improve Clarity
2	Factors related to Patient population	2 <sup>nd</sup> , line 3	PAG members noted that the Health Canada approved indication for axitinib specifies use after failure of prior systemic therapy. Although the intent is the same as second-line use, PAG members noted that the difference in wording may impact the eligibility of patients for copay assistance programs and suggested the addition of wording such as "failure after previous treatment" to the current description of second-line use.

### 3.2 Comments related to PAG input

Please provide feedback on any issues not adequately addressed in the initial recommendation based on the PAG input provided at the outset of the review on potential impacts and feasibility issues of adopting the drug within the health system.

Page Number	Section Title	Paragraph, Line Number	Comments related to initial PAG input
NA	NA	NA	NA

### 3.3 Additional comments about the initial recommendation document

Please provide any additional comments:

Page Number	Section Title	Paragraph, Line Number	Additional Comments
2	Factors related to Patient population	Para 1, line 7	PAG members would like clarity in the wording of the recommendation regarding sorafenib in the second line setting. Members noted that the Health Canada approved indication for sorafenib is after failure with a systemic therapy, although many jurisdictions only fund after failure of cytokine therapy to align with the clinical data

## About Completing This Template

pCODR invites the Provincial Advisory Group (PAG) to provide feedback and comments on the initial recommendation made by the pCODR Expert Review Committee. (See [www.pcodr.ca](http://www.pcodr.ca) for information regarding review status and feedback deadlines.)

As part of the pCODR review process, the pCODR Expert Review Committee makes an initial recommendation based on its review of the clinical, economic and patient evidence for a drug. (See [www.pcodr.ca](http://www.pcodr.ca) for a description of the pCODR process.) The pERC initial recommendation is then posted for feedback and comments from various stakeholders. The pCODR Expert Review Committee welcomes comments and feedback that will help the members understand why the PAG, either as individual PAG members and/or as a group, agrees or disagrees with the pERC initial recommendation. In addition, the members of pERC would like to know if there is any lack of clarity in the document and if so, what could be done to improve the clarity of the information in the pERC initial recommendation. Other comments are welcome as well.

All stakeholders have 10 (ten) business days within which to provide their feedback on the initial recommendation and rationale. If all invited stakeholders agree with the recommended clinical population described in the initial recommendation, it will proceed to a pERC final recommendation by 2 (two) business days after the end of the consultation (feedback) period. This is called an “early conversion” of an initial recommendation to a final recommendation.

If any one of the invited stakeholders does not support the initial recommendation proceeding to a pERC final recommendation, pERC will review all feedback and comments received at the next possible pERC meeting. Based on the feedback received, pERC will consider revising the recommendation document as appropriate. It should be noted that the initial recommendation and rationale for it may or may not change following consultation with stakeholders.

The pERC final recommendation will be made available to the participating provincial and territorial ministries of health and cancer agencies for their use in guiding their funding decisions and will also be made publicly available once it has been finalized.

## Instructions for Providing Feedback

- a) Only members of the PAG can provide feedback on the pERC initial recommendation; delegates must work through the PAG representative to whom they report.
  - a. Please note that only one submission is permitted for the PAG. Thus, the feedback should include both individual PAG members and/or group feedback.
- b) Feedback or comments must be based on the evidence that was considered by pERC in making the pERC initial recommendation. No new evidence will be considered at this part of the review process, however, it may be eligible for a Resubmission.
- c) The template for providing *Provincial Advisory Group (PAG) Feedback on a pERC Initial Recommendation* can be downloaded from the pCODR website. (See [www.pcodr.ca](http://www.pcodr.ca) for a description of the pCODR process and supporting materials and templates.)
- d) At this time, the template must be completed in English. PAG should complete those sections of the template where they have substantive comments and should not feel obligated to complete

every section, if that section does not apply. Similarly, PAG should not feel restricted by the space allotted on the form and can expand the tables in the template as required.

- e) Feedback on the pERC Initial Recommendation should not exceed three (3) pages in length, using a minimum 11 point font on 8 ½" by 11" paper. If comments submitted exceed three pages, only the first three pages of feedback will be forwarded to the pERC.
- f) Feedback should be presented clearly and succinctly in point form, whenever possible. The issue(s) should be clearly stated and specific reference must be made to the section of the recommendation document under discussion (i.e., page number, section title, and paragraph). Opinions from experts and testimonials should not be provided. Comments should be restricted to the content of the initial recommendation.
- g) References to support comments may be provided separately; however, these cannot be related to new evidence. New evidence is not considered at this part of the review process, however, it may be eligible for a Resubmission. If you are unclear as to whether the information you are considering to provide is eligible for a Resubmission, please contact the pCODR Secretariat.
- h) The comments must be submitted via a Microsoft Word (not PDF) document to the pCODR Secretariat by the posted deadline date.
- i) If you have any questions about the feedback process, please e-mail [submissions@pcodr.ca](mailto:submissions@pcodr.ca).

*Note: Submitted feedback may be used in documents available to the public. The confidentiality of any submitted information cannot be protected.*