

20 July 2010



醫院管理局  
HOSPITAL  
AUTHORITY

Dr YEUNG Chiu-fat  
President  
Hong Kong Doctors' Union

Ms Iris CHANG  
President  
The Practising Pharmacists Association of Hong Kong

Mr K P TSANG  
Chairman  
Retina Hong Kong


Dear Dr YEUNG, Ms CHANG and Mr TSANG,

**Request for Clarification on Hospital Authority (HA)'s Views on  
Avastin (Bevacizumab) as Safe and Efficacious Treatment for Wet AMD**

Thank you for your letter of 11 June 2010 expressing your concerns over the use of Bevacizumab for treatment for wet age-related macular degeneration (AMD). However, I would like to reiterate that drug safety and patient benefits are our primary concerns in providing healthcare services for the community. As this juncture, HA has no conclusion on the use of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) inhibitors as standard treatment for wet AMD. The HA is open to different treatment options and would consider the safety, efficacy and cost-effectiveness of different drugs with reference to published scientific evidence, expert advice as well as international practice in the safe use of drugs. HA will keep in view the development of scientific evidence in the field, including the findings of large-scale randomized controlled studies on various VEGF inhibitors, to consider whether individual drugs should be included into the standard treatment.

The concerns that you raised in the afore-mentioned letter are noted and will be taken into consideration at appropriate time points in our future review. Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

  
( Dr W L CHEUNG )  
for Chief Executive  
Hospital Authority

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