

Ein cyf/Our ref: NICE TAs to May 2013
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BY EMAIL

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**TO: All prescribers
County lead pharmacists
Assistant Director of Nursing (Practice)
Hywel Dda Health Board global email**

Dear Colleague

The appraisals listed below have been published by the National Institute for Health & Care Excellence (NICE). They have been assessed for local implementation and their place in therapy established as described.

Please ensure that your teams are fully aware of this information.

In accordance with the provisions of Welsh Health Circulars WHC 2003 (109) and 2005 (22) (see [WHC \(2003\) 109](#); [WHC \(2005\) 22](#)) the drugs have been added to the Health Board's formulary, <http://hywelddahb.inform.wales.nhs.uk/>, and are available for prescribing in accordance with the guidance.

Please ensure that the appropriate audit form is completed for all patient initiations on these technologies in the next 12 months. You will find the audit forms on the [Clinical Systems \(NICE / TA AWMMSG appraisal audits\)](#) pages of the Health Board's Intranet: <http://howis.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/862/page/43199>

Pharmacy has been notified of the guidance and you should be aware that a prescription that falls outside the recommendations of the guidance will be discussed with the prescriber. Failure to complete the audit form may result in a delay in dispensing.

NICE TA275, February 2013: [Stroke and systemic embolism \(prevention, non-valvular atrial fibrillation\) - apixaban](#) <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA275>

The Hywel Dda Position Statement on the New Oral Anticoagulants has been updated to include this guidance and was approved by the MMG June 2013.

NICE TA274, February 2013: [Macular oedema \(diabetic\) – ranibizumab](#) <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA274>

The financial & clinical implications of this TA are being addressed by the Board.

NICE TA280, April 2013: Rheumatoid arthritis - abatacept <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA280>
(2nd line) (rapid review of TA234)

Approved for use by Rheumatology (hospital only) as per NICE guidance.

NICE TA282, April 2013: Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis - pirfenidone
<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/TA282>

Pirfenidone must be prescribed through a designated specialist centre. The process of designation of centres in Wales is ongoing.

If you have any questions relating to the guidance or this process, please contact Sue Beach, Lead Clinical Development Pharmacist, on 01554 783084 or 0777 21 77 655 or email sue.beach@wales.nhs.uk.



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