

Adjuvant bisphosphonate service (ABS) in the treatment of early breast cancer

A guide for patients and their carers

You have been given this leaflet because you have been referred to the adjuvant bisphosphonate service (ABS) and have chosen to start bisphosphonate treatment for your early breast cancer.

The ABS provides treatment in early breast cancer that may reduce the risk of your breast cancer returning. It is given as an intravenous (IV) infusion in the form of a drug called zoledronic acid. This treatment is offered to post-menopausal women or women who are rendered post-menopausal due to drug treatments. The treatment is also offered to men with early breast cancer.

You will have a total of 6 infusions at approximately 6 monthly intervals. We will try to start your bisphosphonate treatment as soon as we have a confirmed consent for treatment, you have seen the dentist to assess your dental health and your vitamin D levels are in the correct range. You may start treatment at the end of chemotherapy if this is possible.

For further information on zoledronic acid please refer to your patient information leaflet: Zoledronic acid in early breast cancer (CHR/1231)



What happens when I have been referred to the service?

Your oncologist will refer you to the service. We will ensure you have been consented to treatment, have adequate vitamin D levels and had a dental check. **You may have been given a dental letter that will need to be returned to the ABS by yourself or your dentist.** We prefer that the dental letter is emailed. (See contact details overleaf).

The ABS service will then co-ordinate your zoledronic acid infusion with your local intra-venous (IV) team for treatment closer to home. Once a referral has been made by the ABS to the local IV team, they will contact you to make an appointment for your infusions. They will also contact you to organise a blood test to check your kidney function and calcium levels a few days before the infusion is given.

Bolton	Brightmet Health Centre, Brightmet Fold Lane, Brightmet BL2 6NT
Bury	Radcliffe Health Centre, 69 Church Street West, Radcliffe M26 2SP
East Cheshire	Macmillan unit, Macclesfield Hospital, Victoria Road SK10 3BL
Mid Cheshire	Macmillan Unit, Leighton Hospital, Middlewich Road, Crewe CW1 4QJ
Mastercall (Stockport)	International House, Pepper Road, Hazel Grove SK7 5BW
North Manchester	Crumpsall Vale, North Manchester General Hospital M8 5RB

Oldham	Victoria Unit, Royal Oldham Hospital, Rochdale Road, Oldham OL1 2JH
Rochdale	Programmed Investigation Unit (PIU), Rochdale Infirmary, Whitehall Street, Rochdale OL12 0NB
Tameside	Crickets Lane Clinic, Crickets Lane OL6 6NG
Trafford	Medical Day Unit, Trafford General Hospital, Moorside Road, M41 5SL
West Lancashire	Virgin Care, Ormskirk and District General Hospital, Wigan Road L39 2AZ
Wigan	Walk-in centre, Leigh Infirmary, The Avenue WN7 1HS

The adjuvant bisphosphonate service

Adjuvant bisphosphonate pharmacist

Adjuvant bisphosphonate service co-ordinator

Tel: **07824 408899**

Adjuvant bisphosphonate service email: chn-tr.abs.christie@nhs.net

The adjuvant bisphosphonate service

The Christie Pharmacy

The Christie Foundation Trust

Wilmslow Road

Manchester M20 4BX

Maggie's centres

The centres provide a full programme of practical and emotional support, including psychological support, benefits advice, nutrition and head care workshops, relaxation and stress management.

Maggie's Manchester

Call: **0161 641 4848** or email: manchester@maggies.org

Maggie's Oldham

Call: **0161 989 0550** or email: oldham@maggies.org

Macmillan Cancer Support

Freephone: **08080 808 0000** or visit: www.macmillan.org.uk

Breast Cancer Now

Tel: **0207 405 5111** or visit: www.breastcancer.org.uk

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard. If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact **the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net**

For information and advice visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham, Salford or Macclesfield. Opening times can vary, please check before making a special journey.

Contact The Christie Hotline for urgent
support and specialist advice
The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week