TITLE: Radiopharmaceutical Therapy for the Treatment of Metastatic Bone Pain: Clinical and Cost-Effectiveness

DATE: 04 December 2008

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of radiopharmaceutical therapy for the treatment of metastatic bone pain?

2. What is the cost-effectiveness of radiopharmaceutical therapy for the treatment of metastatic bone pain?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 4, 2008), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. Database results include articles published between 2003 and January 2009, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

RESULTS:

HTIS reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by economic evaluations, randomized controlled trials, and controlled clinical trials.

Two systematic reviews, two economic evaluations and five randomized controlled trials regarding the clinical and cost-effectiveness of Metastron® and Quadramet® for the treatment of metastatic bone pain were identified. No relevant health technology assessments, meta-analyses, or controlled clinical trials were identified. Additional articles of interest are located in the appendix.

Disclaimer: The Health Technology Inquiry Service (HTIS) is an information service for those involved in planning and providing health care in Canada. HTIS responses are based on a limited literature search and are not comprehensive, systematic reviews. The intent is to provide a list of sources of the best evidence on the topic that CADTH could identify using all reasonable efforts within the time allowed. HTIS responses should be considered along with other types of information and health care considerations. The information included in this response is not intended to replace professional medical advice, nor should it be construed as a recommendation for or against the use of a particular health technology. Readers are also cautioned that a lack of good quality evidence does not necessarily mean a lack of effectiveness particularly in the case of new and emerging health technologies, for which little information can be found, but which may in future prove to be effective. While CADTH has taken care in the preparation of the report to ensure that its contents are accurate, complete and up to date, CADTH does not make any guarantee to that effect. CADTH is not liable for any loss or damages resulting from use of the information in the report.

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Health technology assessments
No literature identified

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Economic analyses and cost information


5. Structured abstract available: [http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/CRDWeb/ShowRecord.asp?ID=21995005519](http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/CRDWeb/ShowRecord.asp?ID=21995005519) (accessed 2008 Nov 27).

6. *Note: This reference is outside the search timeframe*

Randomized controlled trials


Radiopharmaceutical Therapy for Metastatic Bone Pain

**Controlled clinical trials**
No literature identified

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Observational studies


Guidelines and recommendations
