

Policy Category:**INNF****Who usually applies for funding?****GP/Consultant**

Intravitreal anti-VEGF in diabetic macular oedema, pre vitrectomy and other diabetes related eye disease

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| Commissioning decision | Intravitreal anti-VEGF in diabetic macular oedema, pre vitrectomy and other diabetes related eye disease is considered a low priority for funding and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Funding approval must be sought from the ICB via the Individual Funding Request process prior to treatment. |
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Policy Statement:

The use of Intravitreal anti-VEGF in diabetic macular oedema, pre vitrectomy and other diabetes related eye disease is not normally funded.

Rationale:

The use of Intravitreal anti-VEGF in diabetic macular oedema, pre vitrectomy and other diabetes related eye disease is considered a low priority. Funding will be considered only where the patient meets NICE TA274

Plain English Summary:

Ranibizumab (Lucentis, Novartis) belongs to a class of drugs that blocks the action of vascular endothelial growth factor A (VEGF-A). In diabetic macular oedema, VEGF-A causes blood vessels to leak in the macula, the area of the retina responsible for the clearest vision. The accumulated fluid causes swelling, or oedema, which impairs vision. By inhibiting the action of VEGF-A, ranibizumab reduces oedema and limits visual loss or improves vision.

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence have recommended the use of anti-VEGF drugs for diabetic macular oedema in limited circumstances. The ICB does not fund treatment outside of the NICE recommendations.

Evidence base:

NICE TA274: Ranibizumab for treating diabetic macular oedema

For further information please contact GLICB.IFR@nhs.net

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| Date of publication | 12 th October 2015 |
| Policy review date | June 2024 |

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Policy sign off

| Reviewing Body | Date of review |
|---|------------------------------|
| Effective Clinical Commissioning Policy Group | 3 rd August 2015 |
| Integrated Governance and Quality Committee | 20 th August 2015 |

Version Control

| Version No | Type of Change | Date | Description of Change |
|------------|--------------------|---------|--|
| V2 | Policy review date | 4.4.19 | Policy review date changed to April 2021 |
| V3 | Policy review date | 10.6.21 | Policy reviewed by G Mennie, Ophthalmic Lead – no changed required. Policy date changed to June 2024 |
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