

MSAC Secretariat
Department of Health
MDP 853
GPO 9848 Canberra ACT 2601

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Radium 223 (Xofigo) for the treatment of patients with symptomatic castrate resistant prostate cancer with skeletal metastases (No 12687)

We write to support the favorable consideration of this application which is currently before the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC).

Cancer Voices Australia understands that:

- Xofigo is specially prepared Radium 223 which is attracted to bone lesions and operates by emitting very short range alpha particles to kill them.
- There is evidence to show that this highly targeted injectable drug can extend and improve quality of life of men with advanced prostate cancer bone lesions, and that it has a low side effects profile.

Access to Xofigo would benefit the estimated 22000 men with advanced prostate cancer in Australia, especially those with castration-resistant prostate cancer who have limited other treatment options. The most common site of prostate cancer metastases is bone, and resulting bone pain can be a continuing and disabling symptom for these men, severely reducing quality of life.

Thankyou for the opportunity to provide consumer comment on this application.

Yours sincerely

Sally Crossing AM
Executive Committee

18 March 2014

Cancer Voices Australia is the independent, 100% volunteer voice of people affected by cancer, working to improve the cancer experience for Australians, their families and friends. We are active in the areas around diagnosis, information, treatment, research, support, care, survivorship and policy.
To achieve this we work with decision-makers, ensuring the patient perspective is heard.

Cancer Voices has led the cancer consumer movement in Australia since 2000. The CVA network works together on national issues identified as important by their members, with consumers working to help others affected by cancer.

