



PRESS RELEASE

No: 421/2014

Date: 11th August 2014

GHA ALLOWS CLINICAL NEED OF KADCYLA

There has been considerable press coverage in the UK regarding the acceptance by the NHS of the recommendation by NICE, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, that the new breast cancer drug Kadcyla, which may extend patients' lives by six months, should not be funded due to its high cost.

Although NICE Guidelines are normally implemented in Gibraltar, HM Government of Gibraltar will nevertheless fund the use of this drug and the Gibraltar Health Authority will allow its prescription based, not on cost, but on clinical need.

Minister for Health Dr John Cortes, commented, "The GHA strives as far as possible to exceed UK guidelines as we aim to achieve ever better standards and services. Already some of our screening programmes are among the best in the world. In the case of this new drug, provided it is clinically indicated, it will be the patient's need, not the cost, that will prevail."

The GHA will be informing its staff and the UK centres to which it refers patients accordingly.