

## **Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) has decided in favour of venetoclax plus obinutuzumab for some patients.**

The SMC has accepted venetoclax in combination with Obinutuzumab for use in certain patients.

**- patients with del(17p)/TP53 mutation.**

**- patients without del(17p)/TP53 mutation who are not fit enough to receive the chemo - immunotherapy FCR (fludarabine, cyclophosphamide and rituximab).**

The National Institute for Health Excellence (NICE) recently approved this treatment combination for use in England. It was approved in England for all patients having their first treatment, rather than limited to the two groups under consideration here.

However, Scotland has a different mechanism for assessing patients for this new treatment, and we understand that all patients will qualify.

### **Why does this matter?**

Treatment options offered to patients with untreated CLL vary, depending on factors such as their genetic mutational status and whether they can tolerate a chemotherapy-based treatment.

Most of the newer, non-chemotherapy treatments, such as ibrutinib and other combinations of venetoclax are currently only available if you have relapsed from another treatment or cannot tolerate chemotherapy.

This combination of venetoclax and obinutuzumab offers a first line treatment option that is taken for a fixed amount of time, which can be better tolerated and have fewer long-term side effects than other treatments.

**We are determined to continue to press for this kinder, more effective kind of treatments for all patients.**