Trastuzumab Deruxtecan: Adis Evaluation

Clinical Considerations

- HER2-targeted monoclonal antibody conjugated to a topoisomerase I inhibitor
- Approved for treatment following one or more prior anti-HER2-based regimens
- Increases progression-free survival compared with trastuzumab emtansine
- Generally manageable safety and tolerability profile; ILD/pneumonitis is associated with a regulatory warning

Plain Language Summary

Background and rationale

- Human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-targeted therapies have improved HER2-positive breast cancer outcomes in recent years
- Despite this, almost all patients will eventually experience disease progression (cancer growth or spread)
- Trastuzumab deruxtecan (Enhertu®) is an intravenously administered treatment that combines a drug that is toxic to cells and an antibody that targets it to HER2-expressing cells
- It has been approved in several countries for the treatment of adults with unresectable or metastatic HER2-positive breast cancer who have previously received one or more anti-HER2-based therapies

Clinical findings

- In a pivotal clinical trial, trastuzumab deruxtecan showed longer survival without disease progression than trastuzumab emtansine (the previously recommended treatment after first disease progression)
- Trastuzumab deruxtecan had a generally manageable safety and tolerability profile
- The most common classes of adverse events were blood and gastrointestinal disorders
- Fatal events of interstitial lung disease (ILD)/pneumonitis have occurred with trastuzumab deruxtecan and patient monitoring is required

Conclusion

Trastuzumab deruxtecan is a valuable new option for patients with unresectable or metastatic HER2-positive breast cancer who have received at least one prior anti-HER2-based regimen