

SAVE YOUR SKIN FOUNDATION APPLAUDS HEALTH CANADA'S APPROVAL OF BRAFTOVI (ENCORAFENIB) + MEKTOVI (BINIMETINIB) FOR THE TREATMENT OF UNRESECTABLE OR METASTATIC MELANOMA WITH A BRAF V600 MUTATION

March 31, 2021 – VANCOUVER, BC – Health Canada has granted a Notice of Compliance (NOC) for BRAFTOVI™ (encorafenib) to be used in combination with MEKTOVI® (binimetinib), for the treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma with a BRAF V600 mutation, as detected by a validated test.

In 2020, it is estimated that 8,000 Canadians were diagnosed with melanoma skin cancer (i.e., 4,400 males and 3,600 females) and 1,300 lost their lives to the disease.¹ Melanoma is one of the most aggressive and deadly forms of skin cancer.

Save Your Skin Foundation (SYSF) gathered and submitted patient feedback on the targeted therapy Braftovi™ in combination with Mektovi® for the treatment of patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma with a BRAF V600 mutation. SYSF also supported health care providers with their Clinician Input submissions for this treatment.

“Combined BRAFTOVI plus MEKTOVI provides a new therapeutic alternative to current targeted therapies for unresectable or metastatic BRAF V600 mutation positive melanoma,” said Dr. Wilson Miller, Director of the Clinical Research Program at the Jewish General Hospital, and Professor at the Departments of Oncology and Medicine at McGill University.

“We are excited to see novel ways to treat advanced melanoma,” said Kathy Barnard, a melanoma survivor and Founder of Save Your Skin Foundation. “Patients living with melanoma need options, and having new targeted therapies approved ensures that there are more tools available to fight the battle against skin cancer.”

About BRAF-mutant Metastatic Melanoma

Metastatic melanoma is the most serious and life-threatening type of skin cancer and is associated with low survival rates.² There are a variety of gene mutations that can lead to metastatic melanoma. The most common somatic genetic variants in metastatic melanoma are mutations in the *BRAF* gene.³

About BRAFTOVI and MEKTOVI

BRAFTOVI is an oral small molecule BRAF kinase inhibitor and MEKTOVI is an oral small molecule MEK inhibitor which target key enzymes in the MAPK signaling pathway (RAS-RAF-MEK-ERK). Inappropriate activation of proteins in this pathway has been shown to occur in many cancers including melanoma, colorectal cancer, non-small cell lung cancer and others. In Canada, BRAFTOVI plus MEKTOVI are approved for the treatment of unresectable or metastatic melanoma with a BRAF V600 mutation.

-30-

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¹ 2020 Canadian Melanoma skin Cancer Statistics. Available at: <https://www.cancer.ca/en/cancer-information/cancer-type/skin-melanoma/statistics/?region=on>

² Ascierto P, Kirkwood J, Grob J, Simeone E, Grimaldi A, Maio M, Palmieri G, Testori A, Marincola F, Mozzillo N, The role of BRAF V600 mutation in melanoma, *J Transl Med* 2012 Jul 9;10:85. doi: 10.1186/1479-5876-10-85

³ Brenner D, Weir H, Demers A, Ellison L, Louzado C, Shaw A, Turner D, Woods R, Smith L, Projected estimates of cancer in Canada in 2020; for the Canadian Cancer Statistics Advisory Committee, *CMAJ* 2020 March 2;192:E199-205. doi: 10.1503/cmaj.191292