



**Recommendation to the Cancer Systemic Therapy Policy Committee (CSTPC)
from Capital District Health Authority/Cancer Care Nova Scotia**

**Guidelines for the Role of Pemetrexed in Metastatic
Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)**

Approved Use:

Pemetrexed: As a single agent second line treatment in patients with advanced or metastatic NSCLC who have an ECOG performance status of 0-2, where docetaxel is not recommended for one of the following reasons:

1. The patient exhibits peripheral neuropathy after first line platinum based therapy.
2. The patient is at high risk of developing peripheral neuropathy (e.g. diabetes, underlying neurologic problems, neurologic paraneoplastic syndromes).
3. Patients who developed severe hypersensitivity reactions to taxane therapy.
4. Significant administrative issues exist (e.g. patient unable to receive docetaxel in another district).

In any one patient, only one of these options (i.e. docetaxel or pemetrexed) may be used.

- This policy recommendation represents a **new guideline document** and a restriction of pemetrexed to include advanced or metastatic NSCLC patients as a second line therapy option.