

# Life-extending breast cancer drug on NHS after U-turn

◆ Women with aggressive breast cancer will be granted a life-extending drug after a U-turn by NHS rationing bodies.

Kadcyla had been rejected by the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence on cost grounds in 2015 despite the fact it gives women with advanced breast cancer up to nine months' extra life.

But a deal has now been struck between NHS England and manufacturer Roche to make the drug available to about 1,200

women a year who could benefit. Simon Stevens, NHS chief executive, said: "Tough negotiation and flexibility between the NHS and Roche means both patients and taxpayers are getting a good deal."

The treatment had previously been costed at £90,000 a year.

Gunes Kalkan, of charity Breast Cancer Care, said: "This U-turn decision is monumental - after years of agonising uncertainty, there is now guaranteed access to a breakthrough treatment."

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