

# Optimizing Treatment Pathways for nAMD

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## Balancing Durability and Costs in the UK

### Authors

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### INTRODUCTION

- Neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD) is a widespread cause of visual impairment, with intravitreal anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (anti-VEGF) agents being effective treatments<sup>1</sup>
- In the United Kingdom, patients receive ranibizumab, its biosimilars, aflibercept 2mg, brolucizumab, the more recently approved faricimab, or aflibercept 8mg.<sup>1</sup> These latter two therapies demonstrated longer durability in clinical trials and may lead to fewer injections in clinical practice<sup>2,3</sup>

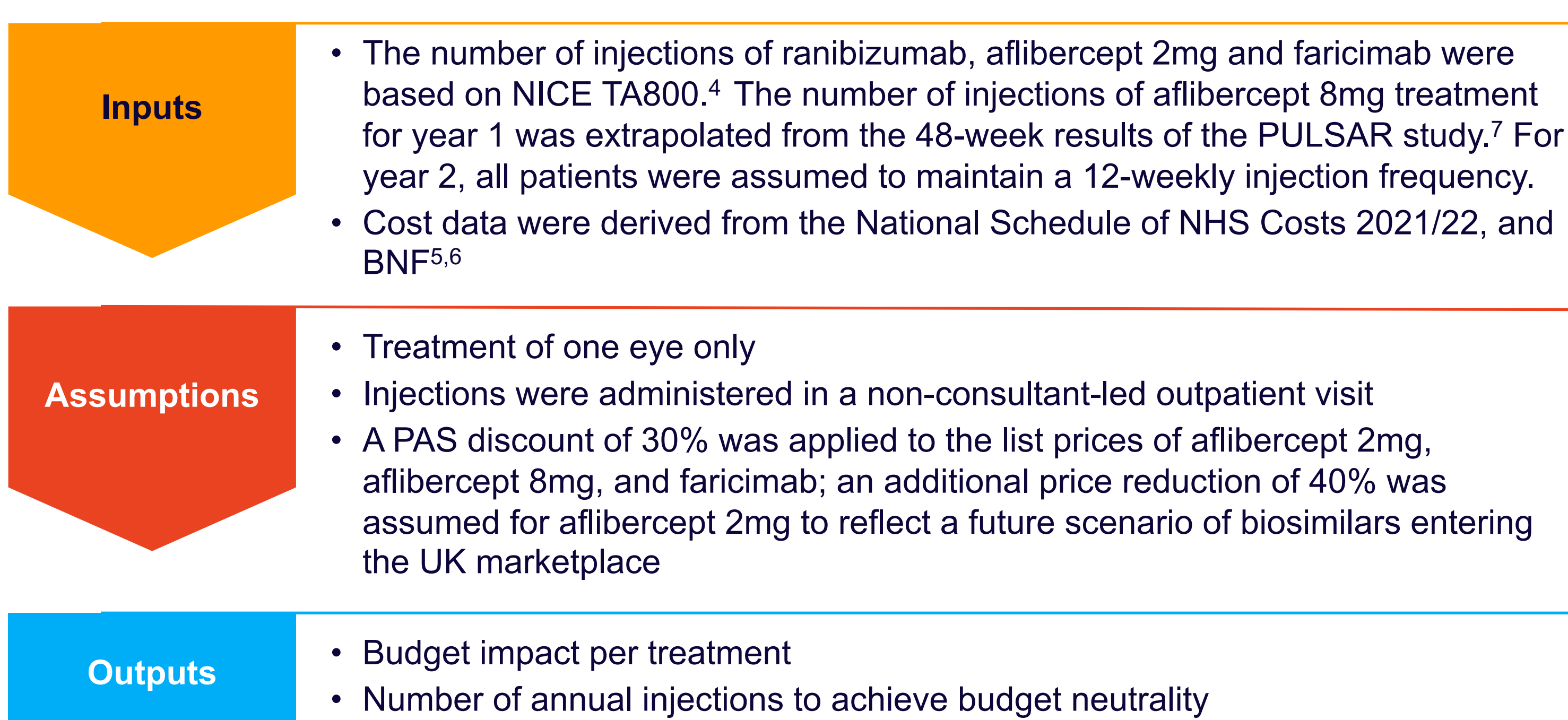
### OBJECTIVE

This study investigated whether the higher acquisition costs of faricimab or aflibercept 8mg compared to biosimilars are offset by the potential reduced healthcare resource use associated with fewer injections

### METHODS

- A durability model was developed based on equivalent clinical outcomes, considering the number of annual injections and their associated drug and healthcare resource costs
- A literature review, including National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) technology appraisals, was conducted to identify sources of the number of injections in clinical practice

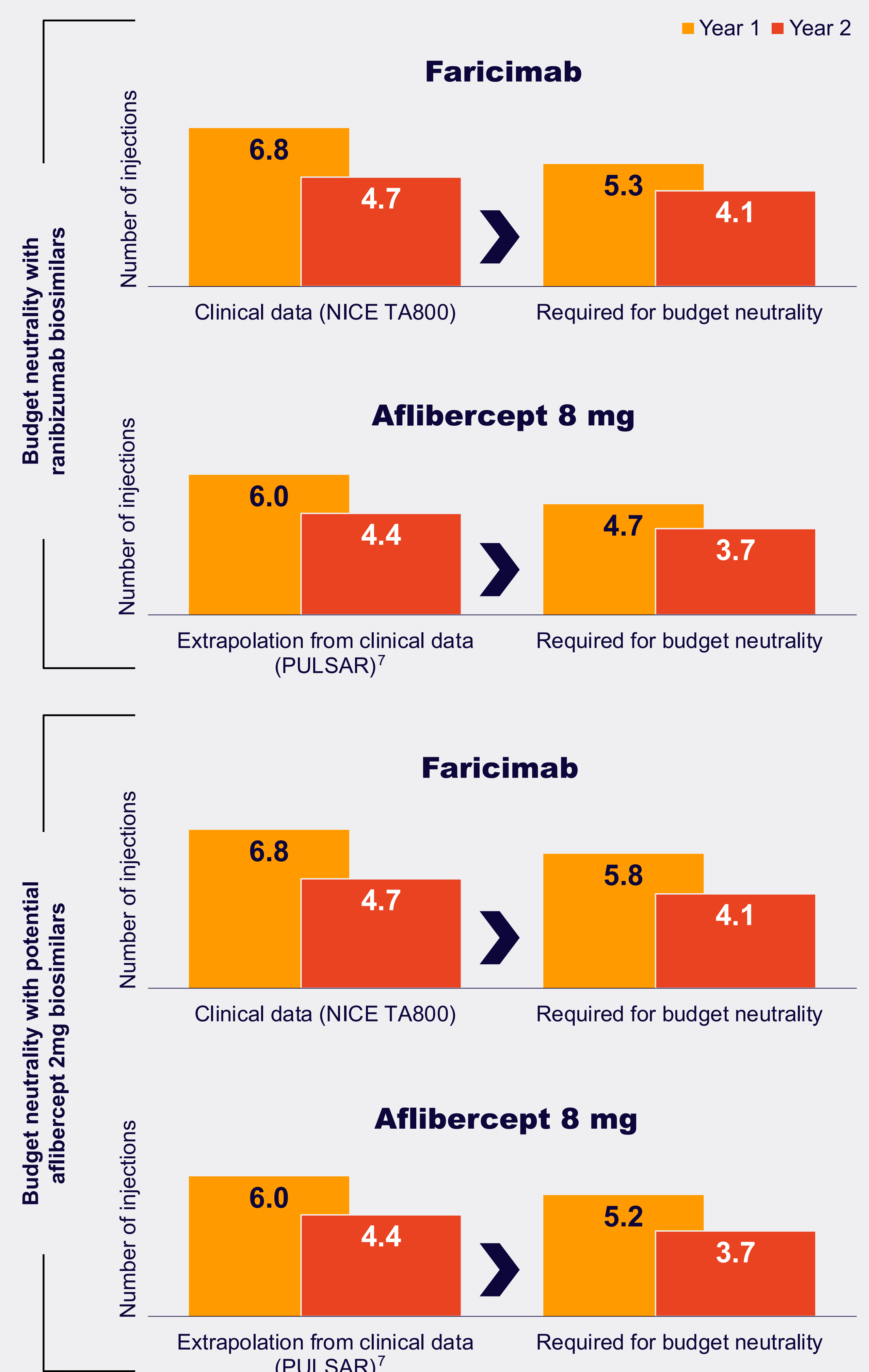
Figure 1. Model structure



### RESULTS

The analysis shows that for budget neutrality with ranibizumab biosimilars or potential aflibercept 2mg biosimilars, respectively, the number of injections of faricimab and aflibercept 8mg would need to be reduced as follows:

Figure 2. Required change of injection frequency for budget neutrality



### CONCLUSIONS

- The study showed that ranibizumab biosimilars and potential aflibercept 2mg biosimilars are probable cost-saving treatment options for retinal conditions such as nAMD.
- While faricimab and aflibercept 8mg show benefits in durability, their higher acquisition costs require evaluation against budget constraints.

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**Abbreviations:** anti-VEGF, anti-vascular endothelial growth factor; BNF, British National Formulary; nAMD, neovascular age-related macular degeneration; NHS, National Health Service; NICE: National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; PAS, patient access scheme; SPC, Summary of Product Characteristics; UK, United Kingdom

