

MID AND SOUTH ESSEX MEDICINES OPTIMISATION COMMITTEE (MSEMOC)

PERINDOPRIL ARGININE (COVERSYL ARGININE®) AND PERINDOPRIL ARGININE/INDAPAMIDE (COVERSYL ARGININE PLUS®)

BLACK: NOT RECOMMENDED FOR PRESCRIBING IN PRIMARY, COMMUNITY OR SECONDARY CARE

Mid and South Essex CCGs do not support the prescribing of perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) as it is not a cost effective option and lacks evidence of superior efficacy. This position is supported by NHS England guidance on items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care.

Perindopril is an ACE inhibitor used in heart failure, hypertension, diabetic nephropathy and prophylaxis of cardiovascular events. Perindopril is available as different salts, perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril erbumine. The perindopril arginine salt version was developed as it is more stable in extremes of climate than the perindopril erbumine salt, which results in a longer shelf-life. However, perindopril arginine has no clinical benefit over generic perindopril erbumine and no difference in safety profile, but is significantly more costly.

Recommendations:

- Do not initiate perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) in any new patients.
- Existing patients should have perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) and perindopril arginine/indapamide (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) reviewed, with a view to switching to generic perindopril erbumine.
- Potential switch options and dose equivalence from perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) to perindopril erbumine:

Current treatment	Switch to
Perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) 2.5mg once daily	Perindopril erbumine 2mg once daily
Perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) 5mg once daily	Perindopril erbumine 4mg once daily
Perindopril arginine (Coversyl Arginine®) 10mg once daily	Perindopril erbumine 8mg once daily

- Perindopril arginine/indapamide combination (Coversyl Arginine Plus®) contains perindopril arginine 5mg and indapamide 1.25mg. There is no direct switch from perindopril arginine/indapamide, however, prescribing perindopril erbumine 4mg plus an appropriate diuretic as a separate component is the most appropriate option. This provides greater flexibility of dosing. An appropriate diuretic would be indapamide (1.5mg modified release once daily or 2.5mg immediate release once daily) according to the NICE clinical guideline for hypertension, with appropriate monitoring.

Providers commissioned to provide services on behalf of Mid and South Essex CCGs are reminded that they are required to follow the local joint formulary and prescribing guidance, as detailed in the medicines management service specification of their contract.

References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS England and NHS Improvement Items which should not routinely be prescribed in primary care: Guidance for CCGs (Version 2, June 2019): https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/items-which-should-not-routinely-be-prescribed-in-primary-care-v2.1.pdf PrescQIPP Bulletin 209 (December 2020): Perindopril arginine: https://www.prescqipp.info/our-resources/bulletins/bulletin-209-perindopril-arginine/
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