

# Medicines Management Update

NHS  
Basildon and Brentwood  
Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS  
Thurrock  
Clinical Commissioning Group

December 2019 Update

THE MEDICINES MANAGEMENT TEAM WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL PRACTICES A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR, AND TO THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PATIENCE THIS YEAR.



Updated Position Statements	NEW Position Statements
Eye vitamins - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Dosulepin - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE), plus switching and stopping regimens
Glucosamine - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Eflornithine (Vaniqa) - prescribing not supported
Good practice for paracetamol prescribing - as per NHSE	Heel Balms - prescribing not supported
High strength fluoride toothpastes, mouthwashes and tablets - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Herbal Treatments - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Infant colic - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Homeopathic Remedies - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Vitamins and minerals - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Immediate Release Fentanyl - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Omega 3 fatty acids - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Lidocaine plasters - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
PDE5 inhibitors - update regarding prescribing of tadalafil once daily (as per NHSE)	Minocycline - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Co-proxamol - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Oxycodone and Naloxone (Targinact) - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Sunscreen - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)	Perindopril arginine - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Therapeutic clothing - update regarding silk garments (as per NHSE)	Rubefaciants - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Cannabis - not suitable for GP prescribing or shared care	Tramadol and Paracetamol (Tramacet) - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)
Emollient guideline and reference guide - updated regarding bath and shower emollients (as per NHSE)	Trimipramine - prescribing not supported (as per NHSE)

## CCG Guidelines approved (September- November 2019)

COPD  
Asthma  
Diabetes

(awaiting the low dose Liraglutide proforma, once received the guidelines will be live and practices will be informed when this is in place)

These will soon be available on the websites

## Stock issues

There continues to be an increase in the 'usual' level of unavailable stock.

The problem has been compounded by many of the items being commonly used products with high volume use. NHSE are monitoring the situation and have asked that any 'unusual activity' is reported to Richard Seal, Regional Lead Pharmacist NHSE ([richard.seal1@nhs.net](mailto:richard.seal1@nhs.net)).

The situation changes frequently so it is not always possible to share information proactively but the Medicines Management Team are publishing the known issues on the website with potential alternatives.

Messages on where to find up to date information on stock shortages are being circulated in the CCG bulletin and Medicines Management newsletters.

## Area Prescribing Committee

This was previously known as the South West Essex Medicines Management Committee but now also covers the South East and there are plans to consider the inclusion of Mid Essex as this would align with the hospitals. This is under discussion currently.

### Formulary decisions (September - November 2019)

- **Safinamide and Opicapone** - these were approved in principle but remain **NON FORMULARY** until a clear pathway detailing where these will fit is made available.
- **Semaglutide** - agreed in principle. Dulaglutide is **NON FORMULARY** and high dose Liraglutide will be removed from the formulary. Low dose Liraglutide will be retained for a small cohort identified by the Endocrinologists. Semaglutide will become the first choice GLP1 receptor agonist, and patients in BTUH will be actively switched.
- **Mexiletene** - All patients for any indication should be repatriated as the hospital are able to access supplies more readily than community pharmacies.
- **Cortiment - NON FORMULARY**. Work is required to review the pathway before formulary additions can be considered.

## East of England Priorities Advisory Committee (PAC)

This group covers 19 CCGs in the East of England and considers treatments or interventions that are potentially high volume or high cost and considers whether they should be considered for funding.

**Voke E-cigarette - NON FORMULARY**. This is the first licensed e-cigarette. Locally all e-cigarettes are within the service restriction policy and so should not be prescribed. Draft PAC guidance also supports a "do not" prescribe position based on the lack of evidence.

**VACOCast Boot - NON FORMULARY**. This product is listed as an appliance in the Drug Tariff but it is currently a non formulary product.

**Cannabis** - NICE produced guidance in November and considered that there may be some patients that could benefit for intractable nausea and vomiting caused by chemotherapy and in 2 forms of rare childhood epilepsy. It did not recommend for pain. This is **NON FORMULARY**. To date there have been no applications received for formulary inclusion by any specialists. Should an application be made it was agreed to set up a working group. The current PAC position statement is available on the websites.

**iPort injection aid - NON FORMULARY**. The use has been discussed with the Endocrine team at BTUH and Mid Essex and currently these teams are happy to complete IFRs. Draft PAC guidance also does not recommend routine prescribing.

**FreeStyle Libre** continuation - locally it has been agreed that the database used by the specialist nurses will be shared to determine if FreeStyle Libre should be continued. PAC is considering how to manage prescribing if more than 20% of patients are initiated on these as this is the level of funding that was provided.