

# Area Prescribing Committee Bulletin

## February 2025



1 - [Link to APC website](#)



2 - [Link to APC Joint Formulary](#)

## New Formulary Submissions

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*Antipsychotics for Chorea in Huntington's Disease. - AMBER 2*

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### Indication:

- Off- label use of neuroleptic medication is considered first-line treatment for Chorea in Huntington's Disease.
- Olanzapine is used most commonly, but risperidone, sulpride, amisulpride and haloperidol might also be used.

- Historically these medications have been prescribed in Primary Care on specialist advice.
- Doses used are generally lower than those used for psychosis.
- For further information about this indication see [BNF](#) and guidance from the [Huntington's Disease Association](#)
- Expectations for monitoring of antipsychotic medication for individual patients will be documented in ReSPECT forms.
- Clinicians are encouraged to discuss with the Specialist should queries arise about individual patients.

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### *Relugolix for treating hormone sensitive prostate cancer - AMBER 2*

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#### **Indication:**

- For use in accordance with NICE [TA995](#) .
- Relugolix is an alternative androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) to GnRH agonists such as triptorelin, and degarelix (for those with spinal metastases).
- Relugolix is given orally. Dose= 120mg once daily (following an initial loading dose of 360 mg on the first day).
- Classification is in line with alternative treatment options.

## **News from the APC - updated & new documents**

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### *Antimicrobial Guidelines:*

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- [Hidradenitis Suppurativa](#)
  - [Dermatophyte nail infection \(onychomycosis\)](#)
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### *Other guidelines:*

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[Gastroprotection \(with PPI\) for patients on NSAID or antiplatelet](#)

[Advisory guidance on when to initiate a PPI with a NSAID \(or antiplatelet\) for gastro-protection.](#) - (Update)

[DOACs for DVT & PE guidance](#)

[Amiodarone Shared Care Protocol](#) (Update)

[Enoxaparin Prescribing Information Sheet](#) (Interim Update)

[Novo Nordisk Insulin Discontinuation Guidance](#) (New)

For further information and a full explanation of changes please see the [latest APC update](#) or watch our [latest webinar](#).

## Horizon scanning, formulary amendments and traffic light changes

- **Budesonide 4mg suppositories** - Amber 2 -cost-effective alternative to prednisolone suppositories ~£185 pm vs £707 pm .
- **Methenamine** - Amber 2 for UTI prevention in men, trans women and non-binary people with a male genitourinary system. Nb no changes regarding use in women, trans men and non-binary people with female urinary system.

## Publications



3 - [Link to APC webinars](#)

**APC Webinars:** You can find our February 2025 APC presentation on the APC website.

Due to recent data protection concerns we are unfortunately unable to link to the February webinar recording. We also removed previous recordings of the live webinar. We are awaiting for more guidance on this and we are exploring other ways in which to allow you access to future webinar recordings.



4 - [Link to APC podcasts](#)

### Our Podcasts:

We've recently uploaded a new episode on [Inclisiran](#), featuring our colleague Sue Haria and Dr. Rushabh Shah discussing its impact and implications.

We are working on future episodes on gabapentinoids prescribing and deprescribing and cultural awareness.

### Feature of the month: Discontinuation of FreeStyle Libre<sup>®</sup> 2 Sensors



Abbott Laboratories Ltd has taken the decision to phase out the FreeStyle Libre<sup>®</sup> 2 Sensors at the end of **August 2025**. This discontinuation does not impact FreeStyle Libre<sup>®</sup> 2 Plus or FreeStyle Libre<sup>®</sup> 3 sensors. Abbott Laboratories has advised patients using the FreeStyle Libre<sup>®</sup> 2 Sensors to have their prescriptions amended to the FreeStyle Libre<sup>®</sup> 2 **Plus** Sensors as soon as possible.

FreeStyle Libre® 2 Plus sensors are not interchangeable with FreeStyle Libre 3 Sensors which are only approved locally for use as part of a Hybrid Closed Loop System.

There are still a number of patients being prescribed FreeStyle Libre® 2 Sensors so practices are advised to identify these and switch when possible.

Let us know what you think!

The work of the Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee is supported and managed by the interface team.

We can be contacted via email on [nnicb-nn.nottsapc@nhs.net](mailto:nnicb-nn.nottsapc@nhs.net)

[www.nottsapc.nhs.uk](http://www.nottsapc.nhs.uk)

[www.nottinghamshireformulary.nhs.uk](http://www.nottinghamshireformulary.nhs.uk)

**Further Information**

- [Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee Website](#)
- [Nottinghamshire Joint Formulary Website](#)
- [Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee Bulletins](#)
- [Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
- [ICB Preferred Prescribing List](#)
- [Guide to setting up SystemOne formulary in GP practices](#)
- Report non-formulary requests from secondary care via [eHealthscope](#) (no patient details)

**Please direct queries to your ICB medicines optimisation pharmacist or e-mail [nnicb-nn.nottsapc@nhs.net](mailto:nnicb-nn.nottsapc@nhs.net)**

