

July 2019 APC Decisions

There were no drug submissions to the APC this month

News from the APC - updated/new documents on the APC website:

- [Alternatives to unlicensed specials database \(Update\)](#) - No major changes
- [Anticoagulants in AF and DOACs for DVT/PE guide \(Update\)](#) - updated monitoring section
- [Male lower urinary tract symptoms \(LUTS\) guideline \(Update\)](#) - No major changes
- [Naltrexone prescribing information sheet \(New\)](#) - for primary care prescribers
- [Osteoporosis guideline \(Update\)](#) - most notable change is that zoledronic acid now joint first line with alendronic acid for secondary prevention. Prescribing by specialists only (RED) and community administration only via CCG Fracture Liaison Pathway where available.
- [Out of area request guidance \(New\)](#) - Guide for prescribers when faced with request to prescribe from out of area.
- [Rheumatology DMARD summary of monitoring \(Update\)](#) - Summary of rheumatology shared care monitoring. Updated to reflect monitoring in current shared care protocols.
- [Urticaria Guideline \(New\)](#) - for primary care clinicians

Printed copies become out of date quickly and may lead to incorrect prescribing.

ITEMS WHICH SHOULD NOT BE PRESCRIBED IN PRIMARY CARE

NHS England have updated their guidance on [items which should not be routinely prescribed in primary care](#), and have added 7 new products to the list.

The following products have been added with no exceptions:-

- Aliskiren
- Bath and shower emollients
- Minocycline for acne
- Insulin pen needles costing more than £5 per 100 needles
- Silk garments

Amiodarone and dronedarone have also been added but with the exception that they may be prescribed if initiated by a specialist and other treatments are not suitable. Our local formulary and guidance already reflects these suggestions, however prescribers are reminded to consider alternative options.

OTC SYMBOL ON THE FORMULARY

There have been a few queries about the OTC symbol that is displayed next to some medications on the Nottinghamshire formulary website. This symbol is intended to make prescribers think about self-care first line and to direct patients to discuss appropriate products with a community pharmacist. It does not necessarily mean the prescriber should ask the patient to buy that exact product, as some of these may be prescription only or not able to be supplied to certain patient groups.

Horizon Scanning, Formulary amendments and traffic light changes

Horizon scanning - **GREY** classification assigned until formal submission is requested

- **Trilasym[®] 50mg/5ml oral solution (amantadine)** for influenza
- **Imvaggis[®] 30microgram pessary (estriol)**

Formulary amendments and traffic light changes:

- **Vipdomet[®] (Alogliptin/metformin)** - GREY to **GREEN** for patients on a stable combination of alogliptin and metformin only
- **Eucreas[®] (Vildagliptin/metformin)** - **GREY** non formulary
- **Cystacide[®] cream (hydrogen peroxide 1%)** - **GREY** non formulary
- **Myocrisin[®] injection (sodium aurothiomalate)** - **DISCONTINUED** - Amber 1 to **GREY**. Existing patients to be referred to specialist ASAP for alternative treatment.
- **Wysoy[®] soya based formula milk** –unclassified to **AMBER 2**, but note that Wysoy[®] should only be used under specialist advice and in the vast majority of cases should be bought OTC. Only to be prescribed in exceptional circumstances.
- **Colestid[®] (colestipol)** - No change from **GREY** but allow use if colesytramine **and** colesevelam are unavailable due to stock shortage.
- **Sytron[®] oral solution (sodium feredetate)** - Amber 2 to **GREEN** for iron deficiency anaemia in children where ferrous fumarate oral solution is not tolerated. Remains Amber 2 for adults.

Current work in development

- Melatonin evidence and guideline review
- Dementia short guide
- Chronic constipation pathway
- End of Life Guidelines
- ADHD shared care protocols
- Combination inhaler reference guide
- Gynaecomastia guidelines

Upcoming NICE publications

TITLE	GUIDELINE / TA	EXPECTED DATE
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in over 16s: diagnosis and management	Guideline	July 2019
Rivaroxaban for preventing major cardiovascular events in people with coronary or peripheral artery disease	TA	August 2019
Dapagliflozin, in combination with insulin, for treating type 1 diabetes	TA	August 2019
Hypertension in adults: diagnosis and management	Guidance	August 2019
Cellulitis and erysipelas: antimicrobial prescribing	Guidance	September 2019
Pneumonia (hospital-acquired): antimicrobial prescribing	Guidance	September 2019
Pneumonia (community-acquired): antimicrobial prescribing	Guidance	September 2019
Pentosan polysulfate sodium for treating bladder pain syndrome	Guidance	September 2019
Budesonide for treating active eosinophilic oesophagitis	TA	October 2019
Cannabis-based products for medicinal use	Guidance	October 2019
Diabetic foot infection: antimicrobial prescribing	Guidance	October 2019

The work of the NAPC is supported and managed by the interface team below. They can be contacted via MACCG.NottsAPC@nhs.net

Laura Catt, Prescribing Interface Advisor, NHS Mansfield and Ashfield CCG

Shadia Jenner, Primary Care Pharmacist, Mansfield&Ashfield CCG (covering Irina Varlan's maternity leave)

Karen Robinson, APC and Formulary Support Technician, Nottinghamshire Health Community

Nick Sherwood, Specialist Mental Health Efficiencies Pharmacist, Notts Healthcare Trust

Deepa Tailor, Primary Care Pharmacist, Nottingham City CCG (covering Lynne Kennell's maternity leave)

Jill Theobald, Specialist Interface Efficiencies Pharmacist, Greater Nottingham CCP