

Prescribing Information Newsletter

November 2018, Number 73

Summary of the Key Recommendations from
The Bedfordshire and Luton Joint Prescribing Committee (JPC)
28th November 2018

Output from the Bedfordshire and Luton Joint Prescribing Committee

PRIMARY CARE OR INTERFACE PRESCRIBING ISSUES

UPDATED COMMISSIONING POSITIONS

BLOOD GLUCOSE MONITORING TEST STRIPS AND METERS

The JPC has approved the update of the formulary choices of blood glucose monitoring test meter and strips. The formulary range (last updated in December 2017) has now been reviewed following patient engagement and specialist team feedback. The formulary choices remain unchanged, the NHS list prices have been updated and meters and strips that have been discontinued and/or succeeded have been removed from the recommendations. Bedfordshire CCG and Luton CCG have issued local 'preferred formulary choices' from the formulary range to enable active local switching where clinically appropriate to support the cost effective clinical management of diabetes.

Bedfordshire CCG – the preferred formulary choices are Mylife Pura and TEE2+ meters and corresponding strips. Formulary choice for patients with type one diabetes whom are required to test both blood glucose and ketones regularly – GlucoMen Areo 2K meter and corresponding strips.

Luton CCG – the preferred formulary choice is the Finetest Lite meter and strips for patients with type 1 or type 2 diabetes. LCCG are considering TEE2+ meter and strips for certain cohorts – please contact their medicines management team for more information.

[Click here to access the updated review](#)

CANNABIS-BASED PRODUCTS FOR MEDICINAL USE

The JPC endorsed the East of England Prescribing Advisory Committee (EofE PAC) recommendations, which supports the NHS England statement and recommendations issued in November 2018:

- Prescribing of unlicensed cannabis-based medicinal preparations is restricted to clinicians listed on the Specialist Register of the General Medical Council. Prescribing by General Practitioners (GPs) is **not** permitted.
 - Patients requesting prescriptions who are currently under the care of a specialist should be advised to discuss their treatment plan with the specialist.
 - Patients requesting prescriptions who are not currently under the care of a specialist should only be referred to specialist services where clinically appropriate and in line with current pathways.
- [Click here to access JPC Bulletin 268: Cannabis-based Products for Medicinal Use](#)

TREATMENT GUIDELINES

ANTIMICROBIAL GUIDELINE UPDATE

UPDATED

The antimicrobial guidance has been updated in response to the following NICE guidelines:

- 'Urinary Tract Infection (lower): antimicrobial prescribing' NICE guideline NG109, published October 2018
- 'Urinary Tract Infection in under 16s: diagnosis and management' clinical guideline CG54, last updated, October 2018
- 'Urinary tract Infection (recurrent): antimicrobial prescribing' NICE guideline NG112, published October 2018)
- 'Pyelonephritis' (Pyelonephritis (acute): antimicrobial prescribing NICE guideline NG111 Published October 2018)
- 'Prostatitis' (Prostatitis (acute): antimicrobial prescribing, NICE guideline NG110, published October 2018)

The guidelines are due to be uploaded onto GP Ref and local prescribing systems in January 2019.

OSTEOPOROSIS GUIDELINE

UPDATED

The osteoporosis guideline has been updated following a full review in September 2017, it is a revised format version of the treatment algorithms. The minor amendments include: update to the NICE table on product licensing and inclusion of the NICE decision support aid and updates following the recent change in licensed indication for deonsumab (N.B. referral to specialist team required) and additional formulations of oral bisphosphonates included. The guidelines are due to be uploaded onto GP Ref in January 2019.

SHARED CARE GUIDELINES AND TREATMENT PATHWAYS

PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS TREATMENT PATHWAY

UPDATED

The existing treatment pathway has been updated to include two drugs which have been approved by NICE for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis: ixekizumab and tofacitinib.

[Click here to access the updated Treatment Pathway](#)

ADHD SHARED CARE GUIDELINE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

UPDATED

The remit of this guideline is to provide guidance on the shared care of children and adolescents aged 6-18 years who are prescribed methylphenidate, atomoxetine, dexamfetamine or lisdexamfetamine for the treatment of ADHD / hyperkinetic disorder. Drug treatment featured in this shared care guidance for ADHD has been updated in accordance with the current NICE guidance NG87 (2018) for treatment of children and adolescents with ADHD.

[Click here to access the updated Shared Care Guideline](#)

GUANFACINE SHARED CARE GUIDELINE

NEW

This shared care guideline has been produced for the management of Children & Young People (5-17 years of age) with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) on guanfacine. It is based on the NICE Guideline 87, issued 14 March 2018 'Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: diagnosis and management.'

[Click here to access the new Shared Care Guideline](#)

JPC BULLETINS

GROWTH HORMONE DEVICES IN CHILDREN

The JPC have endorsed the updated East of England Priorities Advisory Committee (EofE PAC) recommendations for growth hormone which includes a product price review and inclusion of objective criteria for the NICE indications, specifically growth hormone deficiency [Click here for the updated JPC Bulletin 233](#)

UPDATED

INSULIN ASPART (FIASP®)

The JPC have endorsed the updated East of England Priorities Advisory Committee (EofE PAC) recommendations for Fiasp (previously JPC Bulletin 255). [Click here for the updated JPC bulletin 269](#)

UPDATED

INSULIN GLARGINE (TOUJEO®)

The JPC have endorsed the updated East of England Priorities Advisory Committee (EoEPAC) recommendations for Insulin Glargine (Toujeo®). A minor change has been made to the definition of disabling hypoglycaemia. [Click here to access the updated bulletin 267](#)

UPDATED

INSULIN DEGLUDEC (TRESIBA®)

The JPC have endorsed the East of England Priorities Advisory Committee (EoEPAC) recommendations for Insulin Degludec (Tresiba®). [Click here to access bulletin 263](#)

UPDATED

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Drug Safety Updates (DSU) and Patient Safety Alerts

The MHRA Drug Safety Updates for September, October and November 2018 were noted by the JPC for information. Both CCGs are actively engaging with the relevant teams and taking action where required. The main drug safety updates to note:

September 2018: [Click here to access full newsletter](#)

- Valproate Pregnancy Prevention Programme: actions required now from GPs, specialists, and dispensers.

October 2018: [Click here to access full newsletter](#)

- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto ▼) after transcatheter aortic valve replacement: increase in all-cause mortality, thromboembolic and bleeding events in patients in a clinical trial
- Ritonavir-containing products: reports of interaction with levothyroxine leading to reduced thyroxine levels
- Transdermal fentanyl patches: life-threatening and fatal opioid toxicity from accidental exposure, particularly in children

November 2018: [Click here to access full newsletter](#)

- Systemic and inhaled fluoroquinolones: small increased risk of aortic aneurysm and dissection; advice for prescribing in high-risk patients

SECONDARY CARE PRESCRIBING/ FORMULARY/ COMMISSIONING ISSUES

UPDATED DOCUMENTS

High Cost Drug Business Case Template Update

The high cost drug business case template for submission of business cases to the JPC has been updated and approved through virtual ratification. [Click here to access the high cost drug business case template](#)

JPC Shared Care Guideline Template Update

The JPC shared care guideline template has been updated and approved by the committee. [Click here to access the shared care guideline template](#) N.B. Following November's JPC meeting, the medicines management team will be updating all shared care guideline cover sheets as per review date, in line with the recommendations made by the committee in relation to shared care: it is assumed that upon invitation, GPs will opt into the agreement where a ratified and approved local guideline is in place; if they decide otherwise, they should notify the specialist team to opt out.

Additional Papers / issues considered by the Committee - for information

New Update

Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC)

RMOC Guidance: Homely Remedies issued 13th November 2018

RMOC have issued a statement and produced a template on the management of homely remedies in the care home setting. Bedfordshire CCG are reviewing their guidance against RMOC guidance.

RMOC Guidance - Prescribing of Liothyronine issued 7th November 2018

The committee noted that RMOC's guidance supports use of liothyronine for resistant depression. The committee agreed that prescribing must remain with the psychiatrist, and must not be passed onto the GP. The EofE PAC recommendations concluded there was insufficient evidence to support use in resistant depression. The committee supported the decision to retain the current JPC bulletin. [Click here to access the JPC bulletin](#)

RMOC Guidance - Adalimumab issued September to November 2018 – resources and guidance include national uptake survey results, NHSE press release, toolkit and fourth briefing report.

NICE Guidance issued/updated

Guidance/ CCG Commissioned Technology Appraisals where JPC action is required

Tofacitinib for treating active psoriatic arthritis after inadequate response to DMARDs

Technology appraisal guidance [TA543] Published date: 03 October 2018.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta543>

Romiplostim for the treatment of chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura

Technology appraisal guidance [TA221] Published date: 27 April 2011 Last updated: 26 October 2018 <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta221>

Eltrombopag for treating chronic immune (idiopathic) thrombocytopenic purpura

Technology appraisal guidance [TA293] Published date: 24 July 2013 Last updated: 26 October 2018 <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta293>

Chronic heart failure in adults: diagnosis and management NICE guideline [NG106] Published date: September 2018 <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng106>

Pancreatitis, NICE guideline [NG104] Published date: September 2018

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng104>

Forthcoming 2019 JPC Meetings

- Wednesday 27th February
- Wednesday 19th June
- Wednesday 4th December
- Wednesday 24th April
- Wednesday 18th September

If you would like to be included in the consultation for future agenda items please contact either Jacqueline.clayton@nhs.net or sandra.mcgroarty@nhs.net or dona.wingfield1@nhs.net

OTHER NEWS

Use of Scriptswitch/Optimise Rx

To further enhance the communication of JPC advice to GPs, BCCG and LCCG medicine management Teams **are actively reviewing the messages to Scriptswitch and Optimise Rx** to highlight when JPC guidance is available and including a hyperlink to the GP Ref website.

Contact Us:-  jacqueline.clayton@nhs.net and sandra.mcgroarty@nhs.net