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| PRESCRIPTION PAD | | |  | | Medicines Optimisation Committee newsletter  January 2022 No. 6 | |
| Click here to find more ⮚ | [Primary](#Clinicalpolicynews) Care News | [Secondary](#Recommendationsonnewmedicines) Care News | | [Updates from the MHRA](#NewsfromtheMHRA) & NICE | | [North](#NewsfromtheMHRA) of Tyne APC and formulary update |
|  | Items not to be routinely prescribed in Primary Care  Chloral Hydrate – change in RAG status  Oxybutynin liquid  Ciprofloxacin 0.2% ear drops  Midazolam prescribing in primary care  Hyoscine butylbromide prescribing  Denosumab information leaflet  Inclisiran position statement  Liraglutide (Saxenda) for use in weight management | Hydroxychloroquine precsribing – AMBER status  Dapagliflozin – removal of Type 1 diabetes indication | | Drug Safety Update Oct 2021  Drug Safety Update Nov 2021  Drug Safety Update Dec 2021 | | Lipid prevention pathway for the prevention of CVD  Liothyronine prescribing guideline  Blood glucose monitoring guideline  Palliative and end of life care symptom control guidelines  Dapagliflozin in heart failure – information and top tips  Seven day prescriptions and multi-compartment compliance aids (MCA’s) – position statement  Guidelines for the Management of Adults with Asymptomatic Liver Blood Test Abnormalities |

Primary Care News

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| **Items not to be routinely prescribed in primary care** | A reminder to all our prescribers across both Primary and Secondary Care, please see the attached Items not to be routinely prescribed in Primary Care. This means that these items should not be initiated within Secondary Care for continuation in Primary Care.    Should you require any further advice then please contact your Medicine Optimisation Pharmacist. |
| **Choral Hydrate – change in RAG status following restriction in paediatric indication** | Following on from the MHRA Drug Safety Update – Oct 2021. [Chloral hydrate, cloral betaine (Welldorm): restriction of paediatric indication - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/chloral-hydrate-cloral-betaine-welldorm-restriction-of-paediatric-indication)  The paediatric indication for chloral hydrate (for children aged 2 years and older) and cloral (previously chloral) betaine (children aged 12 years and older) has been restricted to short-term treatment (maximum 2 weeks) of severe insomnia only when the child or adolescent has a suspected or definite neurodevelopmental disorder and when the insomnia is interfering with normal daily life. Chloral hydrate and cloral betaine should only be used when other therapies (behavioural and pharmacological) have failed.  The RAG status has now been updated to **RED** for specialist/hospital prescribing only. Primary Care clinicians can now refer any suitable patients back to secondary care for review and continued prescribing if appropriate. |
| **Oxybutynin liquid** | The North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria APC have updated the choices **of Oxybutynin liquid, the 1mg/ml strength** of oxybutynin has now been added to formulary on the grounds that it’s licensed and more cost effective. The RAG status is **GREEN**  Be aware of the non-pharmacological alternatives and higher anticholinergic burden of oxybutyinin when reviewing treatments for urinary incontinence. Immediate release oxybutinin is not appropriate for frail elderly people or those with cognitive impairment. |
| **Ciprofloxacin 0.2% ear drops** | The North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria APC have updated the formulary choices of **Ciprofloxacin to now include the licensed 0.2% ear drops.** The RAG status is **GREEN** |
| **Midazolam prescribing in primary care** | It has been raised by the NHSE CD Accountable Officer (CDAO) that different strengths of midazolam are being prescribed in primary care other than 10mg/2ml. This has been discussed with palliative care leads who agree that only the 10mg/2ml should be prescribed in primary care, unless specialist palliative care teams have been involved.  Midazolam 10mg/2ml will have a **GREEN** RAG status, whereas the other strengths available will now have a **GREEN +** status to be used on the advice of palliative care teams only. |
| **Hyoscine Butylbromide prescribing** | The North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria APC have approved that hyoscine butylbromide is the first choice for the treatment of respiratory secretions on the grounds that the hydrobromide preparation crosses the blood brain barrier leading to drowsiness. The butylbromide preparation is also safer in renal impairment.  The formulary has been updated to reflect hyoscine butylbromide injection is first choice for respiratory secretions. |
| **Denosumab Information leaflet for Primary Care** | The North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria APC have approved the updated Denosumab Information leaflet for Primary Care. A Health Pathway is currently in development for Denosumab, including initiation, continuation and review. |
| **Inclisiran position statement** | The North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria APC has issued the position statement at the link below in response to the NICE approval of Inclisiran.  Teams across the North east and North Cumbria are currently working on the pathways needed to ensure the safe prescribing and management of our patients.  <http://www.northoftyneapc.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2021/10/Inclisiran-position-statememnt-20.10.21.pdf> |
| **Liraglutide (Saxenda) for use in weight management** | Liraglutide (Saxenda) is approved **RED** as an option for managing weight alongside a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity in adults, in line with NICE and providing it is prescribed in secondary care by a specialist multidisciplinary tier 3 weight management service. North Cumbria’s Tier 3 weight management service is planned to launch in April 2022 and prescribing will be undertaken by this service. It is not to be prescribed for this indication in primary care. |

Secondary Care News

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| **Hydroxychloroquine prescribing – AMBER RAG status** | Hydroxychloroquine now has an **AMBER** prescribing status – initiated by a secondary care specialist with transfer to primary care under a shared care agreement. A further update will be provided once the SCG is approved, in the meantime please contact your Medicines Optmisation Pharmacist for support should you have any new initiation requests. |
| **Dapagliflozin – removal of Type 1 Diabetes indication** | Following on from the MHRA Drug Safety Update – Dec 2021  <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1042533/Dec-2021-DSU-PDF_V2_20_December_2021.pdf>  Type 1 diabetes mellitus has been removed as an indication for Dapagliflozin, please see attached MEDS Matters alert. |
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Updates from the MHRA & NICE

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| **Drug Safety Update Oct 2021** | |  | | --- | |  | | Link to the October 2021 MHRA Drug Safety Update <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1023578/Oct-2021-DSU-PDF.pdf>  Article of interest:  **Chloral hydrate, cloral betaine (Welldorm): restriction of paediatric indication** – see MEDS Matters alert below |  | |
| **Drug Safety Update Nov 2021** | |  | | --- | |  | | Link to the November 2021 MHRA Drug Safety Update  <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1033823/Nov-2021-DSU-PDF.pdf>  Article of interest:  **Adrenaline auto-injectors: reminder for prescribers to support safe and effective use** | |
| **Drug Safety Update Dec 2021** | Link to the December 2021 MHRA Drug Safety Update  <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1042533/Dec-2021-DSU-PDF_V2_20_December_2021.pdf>  Article of interest:  **Haloperidol (Haldol): reminder of risks when used in elderly patients for the acute treatment of delirium** – See MEDS Matters alert below |

[North](#NewsfromtheMHRA) of Tyne, Gateshead & North Cumbria APC and formulary update

North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria APC website: <http://www.northoftyneapc.nhs.uk/>

North of Tyne, Gateshead & North Cumbria Formulary: <http://northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk/default.asp>

Updated and published guidelines:

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| **Lipid prevention pathway for the prevention of CVD** | Please see guideline below: |
| **Liothyronine prescribing guideline** | This is an update of the previous guideline which was due for review. Please see guideline below: |
| **Blood glucose monitoring guideline** | This is an update of the previous guideline which was due for review. Please see guideline below: |
| **Palliative and end of life care symptom control guidelines** | This is an update of the previous guideline which was due for review. Please see guideline below: |
| **Dapagliflozin in heart failure – information and top tips** | This information and top tips guide can be used as advice for our patients across North Cumbria: |
| **Seven day prescriptions and multi-compartment compliance aids (MCA’s) – position statement** | This is an update of the previous guideline which was due for review. Please see guideline below: |
| **Guidelines for the Management of Adults with Asymptomatic Liver Blood Test Abnormalities** | This is an update of the previous guideline which was due for review. Please see guideline below: |
| **New approved formulary products** |  |

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All Medicines Optimisation guidance, Shared Care Guidelines, PGDs and other resources can now be found on the NECS Medicines Optimisation Website. <http://medicines.necsu.nhs.uk/guidelines/cumbria-guidelines/>