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To: Prescribing Clinicians and Pharmacists within the Barnsley locality

Dear Colleague

Re: Summary of Key Points from the Area Prescribing Committee Meeting on 12th July 2017 and 9th August 2017

The main outcomes of the meeting were: -

Shared Care / Amber-G Guidelines

Linacotide Amber G guideline

The linacotide guideline has undergone a routine update. The guideline has been sent to the LMC for approval.

Prescribers (including secondary care clinicians) are encouraged to report any problems they experience with shared care or other medicines related issues, particularly where guidelines are not being complied with, to the following email address: BarnsleyAPCReport@nhs.net.

Prescribing Guidelines / Information

Guidance on the most appropriate and cost effective prescribing for infant formula (new)

This comprehensive guidance includes information on prescribing for infants with cow's milk protein allergy and the algorithms in the appendices summarise the key recommendations.

The guidance also includes information on the management of lactose intolerance. A number of products suitable for the management of lactose intolerance and reflux are available to purchase from pharmacies and food retailers at very similar prices to regular formula. It is recommended that these formulas are not prescribed and they have been assigned a grey traffic light classification.

The guidance can be accessed at the following link and a copy has been enclosed with this memo:

http://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/clinical-support/medicines/prescribing-guidelines/Infant_Formula_Guidelines.pdf

Nutritional supplements first line choices reference guide (updated)

The updated reference guide has been enclosed with this memo and can also be accessed at the following link:

http://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/clinical-support/medicines/prescribing-guidelines/Oral_Nutritional_Supplements_Algorithm.pdf

Testosterone Map of Medicine pathway (new)

The Committee approved a referral pathway which has been produced in conjunction with local specialists. This will be incorporated into the Map of Medicine.

Antimicrobial Treatment Guidelines – UTI section (updated)

Due to the increasing concern regarding patients developing E. Coli bloodstream infections, especially older people, the National Quality Premium is aiming to reduce the ratio of trimethoprim to nitrofurantoin prescribing by 10% and the number of patients >70 years prescribed trimethoprim by 10%.

The UTI section of the primary care antimicrobial treatment guidelines has been updated in line with the latest Public Health England guidance. Nitrofurantoin is now the first line antibiotic of choice in patients with GFR>45ml/min (if no alternative treatment is available short courses may be used with caution if GFR 30-44ml/min). The guidance includes information on alternative options if nitrofurantoin is contraindicated and risk factors for increased resistance. If nitrofurantoin is contraindicated, trimethoprim should only be used if there is a low risk of resistance.

The antimicrobial guidance can be accessed at the following link:

<http://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/clinical-support/medicines/prescribing-guidelines/Barnsley%20Primary%20Care%20Antimicrobial%20Guideline.pdf>

Guidance for the use of both an anticoagulant and an antiplatelet (new)

This is now available on the BEST website and a copy has also been enclosed with this memo:

http://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/clinical-support/medicines/prescribing-guidelines/Anticoagulant_plus_Antiplatelet_combined_therapy_guidance.pdf

The Barnsley Joint Formulary can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.barnsleyformulary.nhs.uk/>

Prescribing guidelines are available on the BEST website at the following link:

<http://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/clinical-support/medicines/prescribing-guidelines/>

Traffic Light Classifications

The Committee assigned the following classifications to the products included in the tables below.

APC meeting July 2017

Drug	Licensed indication	Traffic light status
New Product Applications		
Tiotropium and Olodaterol (Spiolto Respimat®)	COPD	Application approved. Added to the formulary with a green classification.
Umeclidinium and Vilanterol (Anoro Ellipta®)	COPD	Application rejected. Grey classification remains.

Fluticasone furoate and Vilanterol (Relvar Ellipta®)	COPD and Asthma	Application rejected. Grey classification remains.
Umeclidinium (Incruse Ellipta®)	COPD	Application rejected. Grey classification remains.
Ferric maltol (Ferracru®)	Iron deficiency anaemia in patients with IBD.	Application rejected. Grey classification remains. To be reviewed in 6 months.
Glucodrate®	Short bowel associated intestinal failure and intestinal insufficiency	Application approved. Added to the formulary with an Amber-G classification and an information sheet will be produced.
Zeroveen® cream	Dry skin conditions	Green. Cost effective alternative to Aveeno® cream.
Formulary update		
Insulin lispro (Humalog® 200u/ml) added.	Diabetes	Green. Humalog® KwikPen is available in two different strengths 100units/ml and 200units/ml. The dose is dialed up in units.
Glucomen Areo ketone sensor test strips added	Ketone test strips	Green. First line choice of test strips for ketone testing.
Rapilose OGTT® added and Lucozade® removed	Oral glucose tolerance test	Green. Rapilose® is now the product of choice for undertaking OGTT. Lucozade® has been removed following the change in formulation.
Cyproterone Acetate – change in traffic light classification	Male hypersexuality	Changed from Amber G to red
Insulin glargine (Abasaglar®)– change in traffic light classification	Diabetes	Changed from Amber G to green
Betamethasone 4mg/ml injection added	Status asthmaticus, shock from surgery/trauma, acute adrenal crisis, soft tissue lesions	Red
Ketoconazole (systemic) added	Cushing's syndrome	Red
Parathyroid hormone (Preatact®) added	Treatment of osteoporosis in post-menopausal women	Red
Somatropin (NutropinAq®) added	Growth hormone deficiency	Red
Exenatide (Byetta® and Bydureon®) – change in traffic light classification	Type 2 diabetes	Changed from amber to provisional amber to reflect non formulary status. Use is restricted to patients currently stabilised on these drugs.
Horizon scanning		
Rolapitant 90 mg film-coated tablets (Varuby®)	Prevention of delayed nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy in adults.	Provisional red
Aciclovir 250 mg & 500 mg powder for solution for infusion	Treatment of <i>Herpes simplex</i>	Provisional red

APC meeting August 2017

Drug	Licensed indication	Traffic light status
New Product Application		
Kliniderm® superabsorbent dressing	Wound care	Application approved. Added to the formulary with a green classification.
Prontosan®	Wound care	Application approved. Added to the formulary with a green classification.

Avelle®	Wound care	Application approved. Added to the formulary with a green classification.
Horizon scanning		
Bezlotoxumab 25 mg/mL concentrate for solution for infusion (Zinplava®)	Prevention of recurrence of <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infection (CDI)	Provisional red
Magnesium glycerophosphate 4 mmol chewable tablets (Neomag®)	Oral magnesium supplements	Provisional grey
Naltrexone/bupropion 8 mg/90 mg prolonged-release tablets (Mysimba®)	Management of weight in adult patients (≥18 years)	Provisional grey
Ticagrelor 90 mg orodispersible tablets (Brilique®)	Prevention of atherothrombotic events in adult patients	Provisional green
Aspirin/dipyridamole 200 mg/25 mg modified release hard capsules (Atransipar®)	Secondary prevention of ischaemic stroke and TIAs	Provisional grey
Nusinersen 12 mg solution for injection (Spinraza®)	Indicated for the treatment of 5q spinal muscular atrophy.	Provisional red
Live attenuated rotavirus vaccine 1.5 mL oral suspension (Rotarix® Tube)	Immunisation of infants aged 6 to 24 weeks for prevention of gastro-enteritis due to rotavirus infection.	Provisional green
Meningococcal group B vaccine 0.5 mL suspension for injection (Trumenba®)	Immunisation of individuals 10 years and older to prevent meningococcal disease	Provisional green

MHRA Drug Safety Update

The June MHRA Drug Safety Update can be accessed at the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/620777/DSU-June_PDF.pdf

Issues relating to primary care:

Denosumab (Prolia, Xgeva ▼): reports of osteonecrosis of the external auditory canal
Denosumab is associated with a risk of osteonecrosis of the jaw. Osteonecrosis of the external auditory canal has also been reported with denosumab.
<p>Advice for healthcare professionals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the possibility of osteonecrosis of the external auditory canal should be considered in patients receiving denosumab who present with ear symptoms including chronic ear infections or in those with suspected cholesteatoma possible risk factors include steroid use and chemotherapy, with or without local risk factors such as infection or trauma advise patients to report any ear pain, discharge from the ear, or an ear infection during denosumab treatment report cases of osteonecrosis of any bone suspected to be associated with denosumab or any other medicine on a Yellow Card

Brimonidine gel (Mirvaso®): risk of systemic cardiovascular effects; not to be applied to damaged skin

Systemic cardiovascular effects including bradycardia, hypotension, and dizziness have been reported after application. It is important to avoid application to irritated or damaged skin, including after laser therapy.

Advice for healthcare professionals:

- cases of bradycardia, hypotension (including orthostatic hypotension), and dizziness after application of brimonidine gel have been reported, some of which required hospitalisation
- some cases were associated with application of brimonidine gel after laser procedures to the skin, which possibly caused increased absorption of the gel
- warn patients not to apply brimonidine gel to irritated or damaged skin, including after laser therapy to the skin

The July MHRA Drug Safety Update can be accessed at the following link:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/632819/DSU-July_PDF.pdf

Regards



Deborah Cooke
Lead Pharmacist

cc: Medicines Management Team
Alison Bielby, BHNFT
Mike Smith, BHNFT
Sarah Hudson, SWYFT
Area Prescribing Committee Members (Secretary to the APC to circulate)
Local Medical Committee (Secretary to the LMC to circulate)
Peter Magirr, NHS Sheffield CCG
Mark Randerson, NHS Doncaster CCG
Stuart Lakin, NHS Rotherham CCG

ENC:

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