

Our Ref: DC/NB

5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

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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 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

The main outcomes of the meeting were: -

### **Prescribing Guidelines**

There were no new / updated prescribing guidelines approved by the Committee this month.

Prescribing guidelines are available on the BEST website:  
<http://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/clinical-support/medicines/prescribing-guidelines/>

The Barnsley Joint Formulary can be accessed at the link below:  
<http://www.barnsleyformulary.nhs.uk/>

### **Shared Care / Amber-G Guidelines**

The following shared care / Amber-G guidelines were approved by the Committee and will be uploaded to the BEST website in due course:

#### **Shared Care Guideline for the use of anticonvulsants as mood stabilisers [UPDATED]**

Links to the SWYPFT valproate review pathway and information on the valproate Pregnancy Prevention Programme during the COVID-19 pandemic have been added.

#### **Sheffield Shared Care Protocol for Riluzole [NEW]**

The Committee agreed to adopt the Sheffield Shared Care Protocol for Riluzole, for long standing patients with motor neurone disease, who are transferred from Sheffield hospitals to primary care.

The following amber-G guidelines have received minor amendments:

- **Moxonidine Amber-G guideline [UPDATED]**
- **Tresiba® (insulin degludec) Amber-G guideline [UPDATED]**

- **Drugs for Dementia (donepezil, rivastigmine, galantamine and memantine) Amber-G guideline [UPDATED]**

Shared Care and Amber-G guidelines are available on the BEST website:  
<http://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/clinical-support/medicines/shared-care-guidelines/>.

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](mailto:BarnsleyAPCReport@nhs.net).

The Barnsley Interface Issues Form should be used to report such problems:  
<http://www.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/members-professionals/area-prescribing-committee.htm>

## **Other**

### **SSRI section of the formulary**

The cost of sertraline has increased and it is now significantly more expensive than other generic SSRIs. The Committee agreed that unless there is a specific clinical reason to favour sertraline, citalopram or fluoxetine should be considered in new patients.

## **Traffic Light Classifications**

The Committee assigned the following classifications to the products included in the table below:

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Formulary Indication</b>	<b>Traffic light status (Drugs with a provisional classification are not currently included on the Barnsley formulary)</b>
<b>SPS New medicines newsletter – November 2020</b>		
<b>Cyanocobalamin (Orobalin®) 1mg tablets</b>	Haematological, neurological and other symptoms secondary to vitamin B12 deficiency. Malabsorption of vitamin B12, such as due to the absence of intrinsic factor (pernicious anaemia), stomach resection or disease of the small intestine. It is also indicated during para-aminosalicylic acid therapy, which can cause impaired B12 resorption.	Non-formulary provisional grey  However cyanocobalamin can be prescribed in line with the BSH/Barnsley guidance on alternatives to vitamin B12 injections (hydroxocobalamin) during the COVID-19 pandemic: <a href="https://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/COVID-19/Meds%20Man/COVID-19%20Vitamin%20B12%20injection%20alternatives%202.0%20.pdf">https://best.barnsleyccg.nhs.uk/COVID-19/Meds%20Man/COVID-19%20Vitamin%20B12%20injection%20alternatives%202.0%20.pdf</a>
<b>Glycopyrronium + indacaterol + mometasone (Enerzair Breezhaler®)</b>	Maintenance treatment of asthma in adults not adequately controlled with a maintenance combination of a long-acting beta2-agonist and a high dose of an inhaled corticosteroid who experienced one or more asthma exacerbations in the previous year.	Non-formulary provisional grey
<b>Indacaterol + mometasone (Aectura Breezhaler®)</b>	Maintenance treatment of asthma in adults and adolescents aged ≥12 years not adequately controlled with inhaled corticosteroids and inhaled short-acting beta2-agonists.	Non-formulary provisional grey

<b>Nutrition and blood formulary review</b>		
<b>Sodium polystyrene Sulphonate Resins (Resonium A®)</b>	Hyperkalaemia associated with anuria or severe oliguria, and in dialysis patients.	Formulary amber-G (previously non-formulary green).  Amber-G guidance in development.
<b>Aymes® Shake Compact sachets</b>	Oral nutritional supplement	Formulary green  The product is already in use as Aymes® Shake made with a reduced volume of 100ml of full fat milk (rather than 200ml for regular Aymes® Shake), to make a 'compact solution'. This change is to avoid confusion and incorrect dosing. The new packaging makes it easier to prepare and there is less chance of an error.  The ONS prescribing guidelines are currently being updated to include Aymes® Shake Compact.
<b>SMA® High Energy</b>	Infant formula	Formulary amber-G  SMA® PRO high energy has been renamed SMA® high energy.
<b>SMA® Alfamino</b>	Infant formula	Formulary amber-G  Alfamino® has been renamed SMA® Alfamino.
<b>Alimentum®</b>	Infant formula	Formulary green  Similac Alimentum® has been renamed Alimentum®.
<b>New product application</b>		
<b>Aymes® Actasolve Smoothie sachets</b>	Oral nutritional supplement	Formulary green  The sachet is mixed with water to prepare a juice style drink. The ONS prescribing guidelines are currently being updated to include Aymes® Actasolve Smoothie.
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Hydrocortisone (Colifoam®) 10% rectal foam</b>	Ulcerative Colitis/ Proctitis	Removed from formulary as discontinued.  Budenofalk® foam is now the first line choice of corticosteroid rectal foam (previously second line choice).  Prednisolone foam enema is non-formulary provisional grey.
<b>Ketoprofen MR capsules</b>	Pain and inflammation	Formulary green
<b>Riluzole</b>	Motor Neurone Disease	Formulary amber (previously formulary red)
<b>Naldemedine</b>	Opioid-induced constipation	Formulary amber-G  TA651 Naldemedine for treating

		opioid-induced constipation: <a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta651">https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ta651</a>
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Amber-G guidance is currently being updated to include naldemedine for treating opioid-induced constipation.

### **MHRA Drug Safety Update**

The November 2020 MHRA Drug Safety Update can be accessed at the following link:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/936767/Nov-2020-DSU-PDF-1.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/936767/Nov-2020-DSU-PDF-1.pdf)

There were no issues relating to primary care.

Regards



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Lead Pharmacist

cc: Medicines Management Team  
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Area Prescribing Committee Members (Secretary to the APC to circulate)  
Local Medical Committee (Secretary to the LMC to circulate)  
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