

Our Ref: DC/NB

12th September 2023

To: Prescribing Clinicians and Pharmacists within the Barnsley locality

Dear Colleague

Re: Summary of Key Points from the Barnsley Area Prescribing Committee Meeting on 9th August 2023.

The main outcomes of the meetings were: -

Prescribing Guidelines

The following guideline was approved by the Committee:

Barnsley APC Position Statement on Nefopam [UPDATED]

This position statement has been updated with minor amendments including updated references and costs. The position statement is available on the BEST website: [link](#)

Amber G / Shared Care Guidelines

There were no amber-G / shared care guideline 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/>

Shared Care and Amber-G guidelines are available on the BEST website:

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

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

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

APC Reporting

Healthcare professionals (including primary and secondary care clinicians and community pharmacists) are encouraged to report any medicines related interface issues (examples include shared care, prescribing guideline, formulary or discharge related issues), particularly where guidelines are not being complied with, to the following email address: BarnsleyAPCReport@nhs.net.

The Barnsley Interface Issues Form available on the BEST website should be used to report the issue: [link](#)

Other

SWYPFT Greenlight Alert (Medicines Safety) Bulletins

The Committee received two medicines safety publications produced by SWYPFT colleagues which have been enclosed with this memo:

- **Propranolol**

Whilst propranolol is widely used, the evidence for use in anxiety is slim and the risks underestimated. Propranolol is toxic in overdose, deterioration can be rapid and occur before medical assistance is available. NICE does not recommend propranolol for [generalised anxiety disorder and panic disorder in adults \(CG113\)](#), there other safer and more effective options. Further details including suggested actions can be found in the bulletin.

- **Cannabidiol (CBD) containing medicines and foodstuffs**

Barnsley Formulary Updates

The Committee noted the traffic light classifications recently assigned by the SY IMOC and the following formulary positions were agreed by the Committee:

Drug	Formulary Indication	Formulary status (including traffic light classification)
July 2023 IMOC TLDL Sub-group list		
Chondroitin (all salts, all strengths)	All indications (e.g. osteoarthritis)	Non-formulary grey
Ciprofibrate	Lipid-regulating drug	Non-formulary grey
Cobimetinib (Cotellic®)	Unresectable or metastatic melanoma in adults	Non-formulary grey (previously non-formulary red) NICE TA414
Co-careldopa intestinal gel (Duodopa®)	Parkinson's Disease	Non-formulary red (previously non-formulary grey)
July 2023 IMOC NICE TAs		
Brexucabtagene autoleucel (Tecartus®)	In line with NICE TA893	Non-formulary red (NICE TA893 not applicable to BHNFT)
Dabrafenib (Tafinlar®)	In line with recommended NICE TAs	Non-formulary red NICE TA898 not applicable to BHNFT
Tixagevimab and cilgavimab (Evusheld®)	NICE TA900 not recommended by NICE	Non-formulary grey (previously formulary red) NICE TA900 not applicable to BHNFT (not recommended by NICE)
Other		
Semaglutide (Wegovy®)	Weight management and obesity in line with NICE TA875	Formulary red. Semaglutide should be prescribed by brand as the different products have different licensed indications. Alternative option to Saxenda® (liraglutide). <i>The manufacturer announced last week that Wegovy® will be available in the UK through a controlled and limited launch.</i>

Voclosporin (Lupkynis®)	In line with NICE TA882	Formulary red
Dapagliflozin	Chronic heart failure with preserved or mildly reduced ejection fraction (NICE TA902)	Formulary Amber-G The Amber-G guideline for dapagliflozin for heart failure with reduced ejection fraction will be updated.

MHRA Drug Safety Update

The July 2023 MHRA Drug Safety Update can be accessed at the following link:

[Drug Safety Update \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Issues relating to primary care:

<p>Hyoscine hydrobromide patches (Scopoderm 1.5mg Patch or Scopoderm TTS Patch): risk of anticholinergic side effects, including hyperthermia</p> <p>There have been a small number of reports of serious and life-threatening anticholinergic side effects associated with hyoscine hydrobromide patches, particularly when used outside the licence. Healthcare professionals, patients, parents and carers should be aware of the signs and symptoms of serious side effects and the need to seek medical help if they occur.</p> <p>Advice for healthcare professionals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be alert to the potential for anticholinergic side effects in patients who are prescribed hyoscine hydrobromide patches, particularly if used outside the licence • usage outside the licence includes: use for indications other than motion or travel sickness, use in children younger than 10 years of age, cutting patches, application of more than one patch at a time, continuous use of patches without a break, and long-term use • children and elderly patients are more susceptible to anticholinergic toxicity • serious anticholinergic side effects can include hyperthermia, urinary retention, delirium, hallucinations, seizures, coma, and respiratory paralysis • if used in hospital or residential care settings, monitor patients for signs and symptoms of anticholinergic side effects and manage these promptly if they occur • if used at home, counsel patients, parents and carers on side effects to be aware of and what to do if they occur • report suspected adverse drug reactions associated with hyoscine hydrobromide to the Yellow Card Scheme <p>Advice for healthcare professionals to provide to patients, parents and carers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hyoscine hydrobromide patches are used commonly without any problems • all medicines can cause unwanted side effects, and while not everybody gets them, some side effects can be serious and even life-threatening • it is important to be aware of the signs and symptoms of serious side effects that could be associated with hyoscine hydrobromide patches – these include high temperature, inability to urinate, confusion, disorientation, seeing or hearing things that are not there, fits or convulsions, reduced consciousness, and breathing difficulties • if these symptoms occur seek medical help and remove the patch immediately • if there is a high temperature, take immediate action to reduce body heat in addition to seeking medical help and removing the patch <p>Codeine linctus: public consultation on the proposal to reclassify to a prescription-only medicine</p> <p>The MHRA have launched a public consultation on the proposal to reclassify codeine linctus to a prescription-only medicine.</p> <p>About the consultation:</p>

- the MHRA are consulting on the reclassification of codeine linctus to a prescription-only medicine – [access the consultation here](#)
- codeine linctus is an oral solution or syrup with the active ingredient codeine phosphate and is used to stop an unproductive or dry cough.
- the consultation has been launched in response to multiple [Yellow Card Reports](#) that codeine linctus is being used recreationally for its opioid effects, rather than for its intended use as a cough suppressant.
- this medication is currently licensed as a pharmacy medicine, meaning that it is available to purchase over the counter in pharmacies. If reclassified as a prescription-only medicine, all strengths of codeine linctus will only be available upon presentation of a prescription.

Regards



Deborah Cooke
Lead Pharmacist

Enc: Greenlight Alert: Cannabidiol (CBD) containing medicines and foodstuffs (SWYPFT August 2023)
Greenlight Alert: Propranolol (SWYPFT August 2023)

cc: Medicines Management Team
Rebecca Hoskins, BHNFT
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Sarah Hudson, SWYPFT
Area Prescribing Committee Members (Secretary to the APC to circulate)
Local Medical Committee (Secretary to the LMC to circulate)
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