

Prescribing and Formulary Panel

Minutes of the meeting held on December 7th 2021 via TEAMS

Present

Geraldine O’Riordan, Prescribing Advisor and Chair (GOR)

Beverley Hall, Chief Pharmacist (BH), arrived

Hong Choo, Lead MI Pharmacist representing the PEH Pharmacy Manager, HSC (HC)

Mike McCarthy, Healthcare Group (MMC)

Douglas Wilson, Queens Road Medical Practice (DW)

Peter Gomes, Medical Specialist Group (PG)

Paul Williams, Island Health (PH)

Bella Boonpinij-Thomas, CNS Respiratory Team (BT)

Kate Kemsley, CNS Respiratory Team (KK)

Apologies

Nikki Brink, States-Employed Doctors and DPH (NB)

Hamish Duncan, Medical Specialist Group (HD),

Tom Saunders, Medical Specialist Group (HD)

1: Minutes

The draft minutes of the November 2021 meeting were approved

• Home Oxygen Assessment Service and Review Operational Policy

Bella Boonpinij-Thomas and Kate Kemsley, Respiratory Clinical Nurse Specialists, attended for this item. They explained that the prescribing of oxygen in the community at the present time appears to be poor and that some patients have not been reviewed for some time. They hoped to save considerable sums of public funds by prescribing according to the BTS and local guidelines. Work has begun already to review patients in the community and in a number of cases treatment has been successfully removed. BBT and KK have already done some clinical meetings at the surgeries which have been valued and appreciated by the attendees. More are planned and there were offers by Panel Members to support future events. MMC commented that education will be key to the success of the project.

After a discussion the paper was approved with the unanimous support of the Panel members present (BH joined the meeting after the above items and this vote)

Action : GOR, BBT, KK

- **New Drugs**

Semaglutide oral

This product has been requested by the Consultant Diabetologist for people with needle phobia in whom a GLP-1 mimetic drug is either strongly indicated and/or no other similar drug is appropriate. It was noted that the available trials reported that this treatment resulted in a reasonable reduction in HbA1c, but also in a significant weight loss of up to 4 kilos at the highest dose. One of the PROGRESS series of trials was designed to evaluate cardiovascular safety and found that its safety was superior to placebo. Cardiac event rates were lower in the semaglutide patients but this did not reach statistical significance. Many trials are and have being conducted to establish whether this drug group reduces rates of cardiac events. PW asked about differences in patent length between the different products, GOR felt that all of the drugs were brought to the market within quite a narrow time window, so in theory this should not be a significant factor in drug choice. Patent expiry is at least 10 years away and changes in formulations and treatment regimens may further extend this.

Action : GOR

Budesonide prolonged release tablets

This product has been requested by the Consultant Gastroenterologist for induction of remission for inflammatory bowel disease predominantly of the colon. It is not however licensed for maintenance of remission. In the placebo-controlled studies it was found to be superior to placebo, NNTs were 10 and 8 respectively. It was noted that special formulations of prednisolone can cost in the hundreds of pounds.

After a discussion it was agreed to recommend it to the CfHSC for approval.

Action : GOR

Ferric Maltol

This product, an oral capsule, has been requested by Gastroenterology and is licensed to treat iron deficiency anaemia as a result of inflammatory bowel disease. It is more expensive than the usual iron supplements. The alternative for people who cannot tolerate the older treatments, is an infusion in hospital. After a discussion, and to support hospital services, the Panel recommended it for its licensed indication.

Minor and/or cost-neutral additions

A Guernsey patient has returned to the islands after a lengthy stay in a UK Hospital with a recommendation to continue treatment with protonamide and cycloserine for his tuberculosis. The drugs are required until August 2022 and care will be shared between the local Respiratory Specialist Service and the Southampton MDT. The combined cost will be £1,511 for 28 days' supply.

This request was approved following a brief discussion.

AOB

1. Extension of Ronapreve License to follow a change in the CMA.

Casirivimab and imdevimab for hospitalised patients.pdf

- 1) Patients hospitalised for acute COVID-19 illness: to be treated at the off-label dose of 2.4g
- 2) Patients with hospital-onset COVID-19: to be treated at a dose of 1.2g, in line with the conditional marketing authorisation

2. GOR extended thanks to Panel members and their colleagues for excellent work throughout the year.

8: Date of next meetings: TBA either via TEAMS or at the Oak MDT Room