

Prescribing and Formulary Panel

Minutes of the meeting held on January 18th 2022 via TEAMS

Present

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

Beverley Hall, Chief Pharmacist (BH),

Mike McCarthy, Healthcare Group (MMC)

Douglas Wilson, Queens Road Medical Practice (DW)

Peter Gomes, Medical Specialist Group (PG)

Paul Williams, Island Health (PH)

Tom Saunders, Medical Specialist Group (TS)

Apologies

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

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

Hamish Duncan, Medical Specialist Group (HD),

1: Minutes

The draft minutes of the December 2021 meeting were approved, subject to an addition to record that BH did not join the meeting until after the Oxygen document had been discussed.

2. New Drugs

Actinomycin D

This request is for retrospective approval for Actinomycin-d. The first dose of the drug was administered to one Guernsey patient in St Mary’s Hospital in London for the management of her high-risk molar pregnancy. Subsequent doses were required on the islands. Actinomycin D was approved when prescribed for this indication and according to tertiary centres’ NHS protocols.

Action : GOR

Oralieve toothpaste and gel for mouth care

The Chief Pharmacist requested, for information, a brief review of these products, which are currently being trialled by Palliative Care for people in receipt of end-of-life care. It was noted a number of other artificial saliva products in sprays and gels are already available via the Prescribing List. However non-foaming toothpastes are not. Children's toothpastes (and childrens' toothbrushes) are reasonable alternatives that can be self-purchased.

Action : GOR

3. New NICE TAs

Nineteen new NICE TAs are ready for approval and preparation of oncology protocols etc were noted.

4. Minor or cost-neutral addition to the hospital formulary

Sodium Hyaluronate Bladder Instillation (brand name Hyacyst^R) is a pre-filled syringe and can be self-administered by patients once treatment is stabilised. It costs (redacted) xxxx to xxxx per dose, Sodium hyaluronate injections are used at present which are nurse-administered in hospital. They cost xxxxx per dose less than the brand already in use and were approved for addition to the Hospital Formulary.

Action : GOR

5. Private chemotherapy

A request for self-funding of pembrolizumab as 2nd line for TCC Bladder / Renal pelvis in NHS /NICE via CDF was approved, subject to pharmacy conformation of capacity to support it. A maximum of 1-2 patients per year will require it. BH highlighted that on most days the pharmacy is at maximum permitted capacity i.e. 19 bags of chemotherapy.

Action : GOR

6. AOB

- **Request for review of funding for TA 683, with an ICER per QALY gained of approx. £50,000.**

The above was discussed. It was noted that the indication recently received a positive TA. The TA highlighted the significant uncertainty about the magnitude of the benefit in people who are both epidermal growth factor receptor negative and anaplastic lymphoma kinase negative. There was a discussion of the costs vs the benefits of some very high cost drugs in a small self-governing low-tax jurisdiction with a rapidly ageing population and multiple service demands. Public funds are finite and demand for other services and treatments delivering patient-oriented outcomes at a lower cost to more people is immense. No change in the funding position of this TA was recommended by the Panel.

- **NMP prescribing**

A request was received from an NMP from one of the Mental Health services to be able to prescribe short-term two to three weeks' supply of benzodiazepines or "Z" drugs to patients experiencing crises and in consultation with her Clinical Supervisor. There was a discussion about the speed at which people may become dependent on these drugs and then the difficulties this poses in Primary Care. It was however agreed that the process by which NMPs decide on what they will prescribe is by agreement with their Clinical Supervisor and not "permission" from the Panel.

Action : GOR, to feed back to NLP

8: Date of next meetings: Tuesday February 8th 2022 at 5pm and Tuesday March 8th 5pm either via TEAMS or at the Oak MDT Room.