

Prescribing and Formulary Panel

Minutes of a meeting held at 5pm Tuesday August 9th 2022 Oak MDT Room

Present

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

Beverley Hall, Chief Pharmacist (BH)

Douglas Wilson, Queens Road Medical Practice (DW)

Tom Saunders, Medical Specialist Group (TS)

Peter Gomes, Medical Specialist Group (PG)

Anja Rozema, Prison Healthcare Manager and NMP candidate as an observer

Apologies

Mike McCarthy, Healthcare Group

Paul Williams, Island Health Medical Practice

Andrew Ward, PEH Pharmacy Manager

Absent

Nikki Brink

Draft Minutes

The Draft minutes of the July 2022 meeting were approved.

- **New Drugs**

Sirolimus Ointment

The request for Sirolimus (aka Rapamycin) Ointment for facial angiofibromas in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex in a young patient came from a GPWSI dermatology. Laser treatment has been tried but was found to be painful and destructive. It had been deferred from the July meeting because it had not been possible to identify a manufacturer.

GOR said that a manufacturer had been identified, but that the acquisition cost was very high. BH commented that she had seen some trials recommending dual treatment using laser therapy and a topical treatment.

After a discussion it was agreed to suggest to the requesting physician that the patient be referred for a secondary care opinion with a view to onward off-island referral to tertiary care.

Action : GOR

Treatments for COVID-19

A paper on the four licensed treatments prepared by GOR was considered, with its recommendation to approve all four. It was noted that no price was available for the two oral products, TS agreed that they should be approved, but that if prescribing and costs escalated in the future the Panel may wish to revisit the decision. It was also agreed that they would be for PEH pharmacy dispensing or administration, but that adequate pharmacy resources will need to be put in place if numbers. GOR suggested that the confidence intervals for cure rates when treatment is initiated within three days of a positive test result and within five days were highly likely to overlap. Therefore there is likely to be no clinically-significant difference between people treated within three days compared with people treated within five days. Primary Care's co-operation with not prescribing out of hours or at the weekend where appropriate will be much appreciated.

Actions: GOR/PW/MMC/DW

- **Minor and/or cost-neutral additions or changes to the Prescribing List or the Hospital Formulary** : None
- **New NICE TAs** : None
 - **Environmentally friendly inhalers**

A draft guidance on the above for QRMP was kindly shared and circulated. Island Health had made some comments which would need to be added. It was also suggested that the Respiratory Service be contacted.

Action : GOR

- **Innovative medicines fund**

The Panel's advice on the above had been sought and a paper prepared by GOR was circulated. It was noted that this was launched in the NHS in June and that so far no medicines have been added to it.

Action : GOR

- **DOAC Prescribing guidelines**

GOR repeated the information given at the last meeting. There are now two UK marketing authorisation for generic apixaban. The acquisition cost of generic apixaban at the moment is the same as the brand, but this is likely to fall. It is not yet known what the reduced price will be, whether or not a rebate will be involved or if the savings are paid directly back to the NHS. The latter approach may cause issues

for Guernsey. The proportion of all DOAC prescribing that the best value agent comprises is very high.

However substantial savings have been made locally since Autumn 2019 via a rebate which matches the NHS discounted price. And the proportion of all DOAC prescribing that the best value agent comprises is significantly higher than the NHS.

- **Black Triangle Drugs** : circulated
- **New NMPs** : none this month
- **Date of next meetings**

Tuesday August 9th 5pm Oak MDT Room 5pm
Tuesday September 13th Oak MDT Room 5pm