

Prescribing and Formulary Panel

Tuesday 7th March 2023, 5pm, Teams

Attendees

Geraldine O’Riordan, Prescribing Advisor, HSC, and Chair

Paul Williams, Island Health Medical Practice

Marc Jenkins, Senior Pharmacist, Prescribing Support Unit, HSC

Tom Saunders, Medical Specialist Group

Mike McCarthy, Healthcare Group

Andrew Ward, Hospital Pharmacy Services Manager, HSC / NMP representative

Apologies

Douglas Wilson, Queens Road Medical Practice

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

GOR welcomed all to the meeting at 17:00.

Apologies for absence were received from Douglas Wilson.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held in February 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. New Drugs

GOR advised that no formal applications for new drugs had been submitted.

4. NEW NICE TAs

GOR circulated the new NICE TAs ahead of the meeting.

TS queried whether it was appropriate to use Roxadustat for anaemia and chronic kidney disease if the patient had already been treated for iron deficiency, GOR advised that the NICE TA had full details of the appropriate use and it was confirmed that Roxadustat could be used.

PR queried the high volume of NICE TAs. GOR advised that the NICE TAs were not ready to be circulated at the last meeting and so February’s NICE TAs had been combined with March’s NICE TA’s, forming a longer than usual list. GOR added that the backlog had been worked through and the team were now at business as usual.

5. Minor and/or cost neutral additions or changes to the Prescribing List or the Hospital Formulary

GOR advised of the addition of hydrocortisone granules in capsules for opening (Alkindi[®]), of a new strength of 5mg; 50 capsules cost £337.50. This was a cost neutral amendment with the cost equal to 2x 2mg capsules and 1x1mg capsule.

GOR advised that Clare Betteridge was liaising with Southampton with a view to restrict prescribing to children who are unable to swallow half of a 10mg tablet, due to the costs.

TS queried whether IV hydrocortisone could be used as an alternative and GOR agreed to investigate this.

AW advised that though a product may be licenced, that did not allow for the drug to be used in an unlicensed form.

GOR advised that any deviations to the use of a licenced product would need to be agreed and approved by the Prescribing and Formulary Panel, who would then assume liability for the prescriber.

6. Black Triangle Drugs

The list of black triangle drugs was circulated ahead of the meeting.

There were no comments on the list though GOR reiterated the importance of reporting any side effects of a black triangle drug, especially with the new NICE TAs having been approved.

7. DOAC Prescribing

GOR advised that there had been no change to the drug tariff price of apixaban and there were several generic alternatives available which were being used.

8. New NMPs

GOR advised that there were no new NMPs.

9. AOB

There were no matters raised under any other business.

The meeting closed at 17:15.