

Prescribing and Formulary Panel

Tuesday 13th June 2023 Oak MDT Room, 17:00 – 17:45

Attendees

Geraldine O’Riordan, Prescribing Advisor and Chair
Andrew Ward, Hospital Pharmacy Services Manager/NMP representative
Douglas Wilson, Queens Road Medical Practice
Paul Williams Island Health Medical Practice
Tom Saunders, Medical Specialist Group

Apologies

Marc Jenkins, PSU Pharmacist
Mike McCarthy, Healthcare Group

Minutes

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Marc Jenkins and Mike McCarthy.

2. Draft minutes of the May 2023 meeting

The minutes of the meeting held in May 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Minor amendments

High strength cholecalciferol tablets, which have now become specials, recommending removal from list.

- Cholecalciferol 10,000-unit tablets
- Cholecalciferol 20,000-unit tablets
- Cholecalciferol 3,000-unit tablets

GOR explained that the 2,000 strength tablets had been removed from the list which provided a cost saving of £10,000 per month. Removing the above strengths would save another £3,000 per month. GOR added that there was a guideline being drafted for prescribing of colecalciferol.

GOR advised that self-purchased products in appropriate doses were recommend in NHS local guidelines, particularly for people who pay prescription charges.

4. New drugs

Budesonide orodispersible tablets

GOR advised that a GP from Queen's Road Medical Practice had requested the budesonide orodispersible tablets for a patient with Lymphocytic Oesophagitis, which they are not licensed for. After a discussion it was agreed to decline the request. GOR advised that budesonide respules were a more favourable, cost-effective alternative.

Sativex for spasms in MS

GOR advised that Sativex had been requested by an inpatient who suffered with severe spasms related to MS, as per the NICE guidance. However the company has will need to confirm that they will extend the FOC first month to Guernsey. If the product can be supplied to retail pharmacies, the drug will be added to the whitelist. The appropriate consultant would need to initiate the use of the drug and observe the patient to gauge how well they responded. The supply of doses which were provide free of charge would need to be via the hospital pharmacy.

5. New NICE TAs

The new NICE TAs were noted. TS advised that the clinical capacity to prescribe and to monitor safely certain drugs, particularly those for respiratory illnesses, was lacking. TS added that, in oncology it was difficult not to offer the latest treatments and there were some drugs which improved quality of life but did not improve symptoms and queried whether they should be funded.

GOR explained that approving over 100 TAs enmasse was uncommon and a way forward was required to ascertain how matters would proceed now that all of the drugs are available. GOR advised that the creation of an organisation plan would require input from those present among others, but would be the responsibility of the Medical Director, the Director of Operations, and the Director of Public Health, based on the capacity to prescribe, dispense and monitor.

6. Guidelines

Lipid management for Primary and Secondary Prevention of CVD

GOR agreed to circulate the document after the meeting to Cardiology, who had been contacted but had not yet replied.

7. Black Triangle Drugs

The list of black triangle drugs was circulated prior to the meeting.

8. DOAC prescribing

GOR advised that there were no changes in the DT price of Apixaban.

9. New NMPs

There were no new NMPs.

10. Any other business

TS advised that pyridostigmine tablets were not available in any community pharmacies and he had prescribed the drug for a patient with postural hypertension. GOR advised that she was aware of a reasonable alternative and would liaise with TS outside of the meeting. Update: liquid is available and its dispensing has been authorised by GOR.

GOR advised that a proposal to put a cap on the quantity of medicinal cannabis that could be imported had been put forward and a paper would be discussed in July. Whilst PFP would not be responsible for making a decision, the opinion of those on the panel was valued.

The meeting closed at 17:45.

11. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 4th July 2023.