

Medicines Optimisation intervention brief

Medicines Optimisation Incentive Scheme 2018/19 Cost Saving Intervention

TITLE?
CS2.2.3 Infant formula prescribed for children aged over 2 years.
WHAT?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the need for an infant formula prescription if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The patient is over 2 years of age ○ The formula been prescribed for more than 1 year ○ The patient is prescribed more than the suggested formula quantities according to their age/ weight
WHY?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2016/17, the total spend on infant formula in west Hampshire was £800K. 63% of this was for amino acid formulations. • A North Hampshire CCG GP's unpublished audit has shown that 25% of infant formulae are prescribed inappropriately: either the wrong formula is used for the condition or age, or the wrong quantity is given (Hampshire Infant Feeding guidelines and Appropriate prescribing of specialist infant formulae). • Infant formulae guidelines are targeted at infants 0-12 months; however some of the prescribable items mentioned here can be used past this age, usually under the recommendation of a paediatric dietitian or paediatrician. • Formulae should not be used as a sole source of nutrition for infants over 6 months unless under dietetic or medical supervision.
WHO?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All patients receiving prescriptions for infant formulae for over 1 year duration.
TIPS?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to guidelines - See Formulary for Infant Formulae on WHCCG website (LINK).
HOW?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a search on the GP clinical system to find patients receiving prescriptions for infant formula (excluding pre-term) for more than 1 year. <p><u>For infants over 2 years</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initially review patients who are over 2 years of age and receiving infant formula on prescription. • Refer to the most recent correspondence from the paediatric dietitian/health visitor. • Agree with GP/ paediatric dietician/ health visitor to stop the supply of infant formula for the above patients unless there is a recorded reason for the continued supply. <p><u>For all other infants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the amount of formula prescribed is appropriate for the age of the infant. • Refer to the most recent correspondence from the paediatric dietitian/health visitor. • Exclude any patients currently under supervision of a paediatric dietician/health visitor and where supply is required beyond 1 year.



- Agree with GP/ paediatric dietician/ health visitor to stop/reduce the supply of infant formula for the above patients where appropriate.
- **Review the use of ready-made infant formulae and switch to the alternative powdered formulation if appropriate.**
- Agree method of contacting patient's parent/ carer.

SO WHAT?

- Appropriate prescribing of infant formulae.
- A reduction in items of infant formulae prescribed of the total of all infant formulae products prescribed after the intervention (excluding pre-term).

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Formulary for Infant Formulae on WHCCG website ([LINK](#)).
- GPs quick prescribing reference guide ([LINK](#))

